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> Colonies General

> > 34



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Contents

IUP Page Number

For ease of reference IUP editors have assigned a continuous pagination which appears on the top outer margin of each page.

State of the Colonies Annual Reports 1896 [c.7944] Vol LVII

Barbados Report for 1895	9
Basutoland Reports for 1894–95	33
Bermuda Report for 1895	at minima dan
British Bechuanaland Reports 1894–95	97
British Guiana Report for 1894–95	165
ACCOUNT A CONTINUE OFFI	Astronomic Management (1997)
British New Guinea Report for 1894–95	203
Ceylon Report for 1894	263
Falkland Islands Report for 1895	279
Fiji Report for 1894	303
Gambia Report for 1895	regard sort manufactor of the control of the contro
Gibraltar Report for 1895	was shoulded to make our was among an illustration of the simulation of the simulat
Gold Coast Report for 1894	The manufacture salt to three 2 th 15 th 1339
Hong Kong	269
Jamaica Report for 1894–95	389
Labuan Report for 1894	421
Danart for 1904	and when I then 429
	dentifying the Tr

Continued

Contents

IUP Page Number

Continued

Malta Parant for 1805	459
Report for 1895	439
Mauritius Penert for 1894	481
Report for 1894	401
Newfoundland Report for 1894	493
	773
St Helena Report for 1894	505
	303
Seychelles Report for 1894	517
	317
Sierra Leone	525
Report for 1894 Report for 1895	537
Straits Settlement	
Report for 1894	553
Turks and Caicos Islands	
Report for 1895	581
Zululand	
Report for 1895	593

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 173.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894 see No. 140 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Mer Majesty.

August 1896.



LONDON:

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial cossessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
138	Bermuda - ROGARRAR	1894
139	Bahamas	29
140	Barbados - For tolk as a local solution and a second secon	,,
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	92
142	Malta	"
143	Gambia	"
144	Windward Islands	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
146	Gibraltar	,,
147	Falkland Islands	,,
148	Hong Kong	,,
149	Straits Settlements	"
150	Target de la constant	"
151	Seychelles	"
152	Basutoland	1894-5
153	Fiji	1894
154	St. Helena	"
155	Ceylon	,,
156	Mauritius	"
157	Labuan	,,
158	Gold Coast - MOGE - MOGE	"
159	British Guiana	"
160	Sierra Leone	,,
161	Jamaica	1894-5
162	British Honduras - haloh-ni day- dash - aw 199-d	1894
163	British Bechuanaland and - mass - syad - syl	1894-5
164	Newfoundland	1894
165	Gambia	1895
166	Bermuda	,,,
167	Leeward Islands	1894
168	British New Guinea	1894-5
169	Zululand -bemuotas abasid ila rebuu zigissor lan	1895
170	Sierra Leone	22
171	Gibraltar	"
172	Malta	"
	Less than estimate - 12,198	-

MISCELLANEOUS.

lo.	Colony.	of 1894	Subject. Same and
1 80	Gold Coast -	ittacks (Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	P. D.G. UJ	Forests.
2 3	Sierra Leone -	nor sno	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada		Emigration.
5	Bahamas -	ait levul	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	resourc	Bubonic Plague.
708	Newfoundland -		Mineral Resources.

No. 173.

BARBADOS.

[For Report for 1894 see No. 140.]

Sir J. S. HAY to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
May 27, 1896.

I have the honour to forward copies of the Blue Book of
Barbados for the year 1895, together with a report thereon by
Mr. G. R. Le Hunte, Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c. J. S. HAY.

BLUE BOOK REPORT.

Taxation.

1. This subject was dealt with in detail in the report for last year (No. 140); there have been no changes since.

Revenue.

2.	The estimate 1895 was The actual re	Harry .			THE A	£ 159,108
	to -	-		- 1	91	146,315
	Les	s than est	imate	11	-	12,793
	As against an	estimate :	for 1894	of -	-	161,034
	And actual re	eceipts of	ANEOU	TROUM	W	160,624

3. The cause of the serious falling off in the revenue of 1895 is, as was foreshadowed in the report of 1894, due entirely to the disastrous drought and the severe attacks of the cane fungus disease, and the export of sugar fell to 36,451 hogsheads, being less than the average of the previous four years by 24,093 hogsheads.

This unfortunate period of agricultural financial depression is now fortunately passing away and the resources of the Colony are regaining their proper stability. (See General Remarks, page 23.)

^{9 92690.} Wt. 20348.

4. The following are the receipts under the principal heads for the past six years:—

-	_			1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Customs -				£ 116,415	£ 99,779	£ 92,340	£ 94,480	£ 94,244	£ 82,529
Port and harbou	ır			5,616	4,686	4,299	4,614	4,234	3,239
Militia and poli	ce tax			3,893	3,644	6,331	3,899	3,619	3,603
Excise -				30,517	25,298	28,919	32,553	29,422	25,666
Licenses -				6,628	7,066	6,249	6,169	6,473	6,012
Fees and fines a	nd fees	s of off	ice	6,144	5,772	6,049	5,758	5,624	4,671
Post Office				6,650	5,832	7,909	6,020	6,732	6,594
Miscellaneous	•	•		10,316	11,828	10,567	8,237	10,276	14,001
Totals				186,179	163,905	162,663	161,730	160,624	146,315

Expenditure.

5. The total expenditure	for 1895	was	esti-	£
mated at	•	-	-	165,560
The actua expenditure w	as -	-	-	152,039
Under estimate		-		13,521
As against an estimated e	xpenditur	e for	1894	165,291
And an actual expenditur	e in 1894	of	-	161,279

Of the 152,039l., 76,171l. comes under fixed establishments and 75,868l. under services exclusive of establishments.

Public Debt.

6. The Public Debt of the Colony which was 30,000l. for the Public Works Loan 1883 (4 per cent. interest) has been increased by 375,000l. for the Waterworks Loan 1895, raised for the purpose of purchasing and constructing works for the water supply of the Island (see Legislation). The interest on the debentures is 3 per cent.—1 per cent. sinking fund. The total debt on the 31st December 1895 was 405,000l. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund was 16,073l.

Military Expenditure.

7. The return of military expenditure for 1895 shows that

63,4821. was expended on the garrison at Barbados

The Imperial authorities have again drawn the attention of the Colonial Government to the certain removal of the troops to St. Lucia at a near date.

Public Works.

BARBADOS. 1895.

8. The only public work of importance undertaken in 1895 was the rebuilding of the pier head and outer wall of the Careenage, the face of which had fallen in and become useless for

any purpose.

9. Under the supervision of an experienced engineer, Mr. G. H. Stephens, C.E., especially sent out for the purpose, the broken down wall was refaced in concrete, affording berthing accommodation for three vessels of fair size, with 50,000 square feet of wharfage, of which 25,000 is available for warehouses, &c. railway company have laid lines along the new pier, which they intend to connect with their main lines. The mouth of the Careenage was also blasted and dredged to a uniform depth of 16 feet at low water. The work was begun in May 1895, and finished in October 1895, at a total cost of 9,679l., which was defrayed from a fund which had been set apart for the purpose of previous years' revenues. An experienced professional diver was obtained from England (Mr. Murphy), who not only completed his work in a shorter time than was expected, but trained a staff who have since proved themselves quite competent to carry out any ordinary diving operations.

Legislation.

10. Twenty-eight Acts were passed by the Legislature during the year, all of which, except two, Central Factory Act and Estate Duty Act, received the Royal Assent. The latter of these has since received it, the other is dependent on an amendment

not yet carried out.

11. As was stated in the Blue Book Report for 1894, paragraph 21, the most important measure for the consideration of the Legislature during the session was the transfer to the Government of the Waterworks Companies plants and undertakings. This was effected by Acts Nos. 1 and 2 under which the works, &c. of the Barbados Water Supply Company were taken over at a c t of 59,100l., and those of the Bridgetown Waterworks Company, 149,812l., total, 208,912l.; provision being made, as in the case of the latter, for the paying off of debenture bondholders as the bonds became due. The total amount of money required by the Government, 375,000l., was raised very successfully by the Crown Agents in London at 102l. 7s. 1d. per cent. bearing interest at 3 per cent. The ordinary provision is made for the sinking fund at 1 per cent.

12. By Act No. 3, "The Waterworks Act, 1895," the management of the waterworks construction and maintenance was vested in a special department called the Waterworks Department, subject to the control of the Governor in Executive Committee. The department was formed of seven gentlemen, of whom two had been or were directors of the Bridgetown Waterworks Company; their meetings are held weekly and the members

BARBADOS. receive a fee of 11. per attendance. The appointment of the officials of the department is vested in the department subject to the confirmation of the Governor.

The Engineer of the Bridgetown Waterworks Company was appointed engineer and manager of the new department at a

salary of 1,000l., with travelling expenses.

The secretary of the Company was appointed secretary to the department at a salary of 600l.

Assistants to the engineer and secretary were also appointed. All appointments are limited to three years, with yearly

re-engagement, for as long as may be necessary.

13. The Act embodies all the provisions for the construction and maintenance of a water supply to the town and to country districts for public use and to private consumers. The new department took over the works of both companies on the 1st of April and the work has been energetically carried on since that

Up to the 31st December the expenditure of the department

was as follows:-

	£	S.	d.
Purchase of Barbados Water Supply	al donner		11532
Company's works, &c	59,100	9	11
Purchase of Bridgetown Water-			
works Company's works, &c	149,812	0	2
Sum set apart for the gradual paying			
off of the debenture holders -	14,976		0
Purchase of Coles Caves Spring -	3,000	0	0
Total	226,889	0	1

14. As the increased expenditure from the general revenue for the payment of the interest and sinking fund of the waterworks loan had to be met by an increase in the revenue it was decided to supply the deficiency by restoring the rates of customs tariff on items which had been reduced by the change of tariff in 1891 when the McKinley tariff was adopted here with the idea of securing a stable market for the sugar exporters to the United States. The loss of revenue to the Customs by that step amounted to 12,700%. per annum, and this was now in part restored by reverting generally to the original scale in the case of items on which the duty had been lowered. Some slight alterations were made in other items. (See Imports, page 10.)

15. The next measure of importance was Act No. 19, to provide for the erection and maintenance of a central sugar factory. As is known to all visitors to the West Indies, Barbados is composed entirely of a large number of sugar estates of all sizes and shapes and at every variety of elevation between sea level and 1,100 feet. A very large number of these estates—of the smaller ones by far the greater number-are still dependent on windmills for crushing power and on boiling in the open in coppers and tayches, the sugar being granulated by hand power oscillators. In the larger factories steam power is used and

The advantage of the improved machinery is rapidly making itself apparent, and most estates which can afford it are replacing steam for wind power, even where they have not yet adopted the more advanced processes for making sugar.

16. At the present time when cane sugar is driven to the closest, the unfairest, competition with bounty paid beet sugar, the life of a colony such as Barbados depends on its being able to export the best quality of produce and sell it to the best advantage, and while in fair seasons here quantity is assured the strain is to get such a quality of sugar as will hold its own and sell in our foreign markets.

A scheme was therefore set on foot and, after careful consideration, adopted by the Government to enable a number of proprietors to combine together and with the assistance of a Government loan to erect a factory capable of producing the best qualities of sugar crystals at a minimum cost compared with what the individual efforts of the estates would have been able

to produce.

17. The Executive having supplied the necessary capital, which in the first instance is limited to 50,000l., to erect a factory capable of crushing 1,500 acres of canes, retains legal possession of the factory and a voice in its management (which is vested in a board of directors, five appointed by the estates, two by the Executive) until the loan is paid up by the operation of a sinking fund formed by a per-centage of the produce of the factory; after the loan is paid up the factory becomes the absolute property of the group of estates which had combined to support it, and it is left entirely to their management.

The Royal Assent was withheld from this measure because the security to the Government for the repayment of the loan is insufficient, the Legislature not having made the loan a first charge on the estates with priority over all and any other incumbrances and charges. Should the Legislature see their way to this amendment the measure will become law. The matter will

probably be under consideration during 1896.

18. The only other measure which requires mention as affecting the estates of persons residing away from the Island is Act No. 20, which imposes for the revenue of the Colony on the estates of absentee proprietors in this Island the same duty on the passing of the property at the death of the proprietor as would be payable in England on such property if situate in that country.

Political Franchise.

19. The total number of electors registered at the last general election on the 17th September 1895 was 2,341, being 174 more than in 1894. The increase occurred in the parishes of Christ Church, St. George, and St. Philip, and notably in St. Lucy's parish.

Councils and Assemblies.

20. The only change in the Executive Council is that Major-General Fowler-Butler, Commanding the Troops, took the place of Major-General Leach, C.B.

In the House of Assembly certain changes took place at the general election in September. The newly-elected members were Mr. J. Gardiner Austin vice Mr. E. T. Grannum, for St. Michael's (Bridgetown). Mr. H. Graham Yearwood, vice Mr. Thomas Gill, (who died) for St. Joseph.

Civil Establishments.

21. The Governor, Sir. J. S. Hay, K.C.M.G., was absent on leave from the Colony from August to December, during which time the Government was administered by the Honourable G. R. le Hunte, Colonial Secretary, to whom the Queen's Commission dormant had been issued on the retirement of Major-General Leach, C.B., Commanding the Troops.

Pensions.

22. The total amount of the Pension List for 1895 was 2,768l. as against 2,936l. in 1894. Two pensions of over 100l. were granted during the year, one 210l. to Colonel John Elliott, C.B., C.M.G., late Inspector-General of Police; the other, 192l. to Sir W. Brandford Griffith, K.C.M.G., late Governor of the Gold Coast, that being the amount of the contribution to his pension due by this Colony.

Foreign Consuls.

23. No change took place under this head. Italy and Belgium are still unrepresented.

Population and Vital Statistics.

24. In the report for 1894, under population, paragraph 30, the question of dealing with the surplus population by fostering emigration to the neighbouring Colonies was alluded to. As a preliminary step at the request of the Legislature a committee of gentlemen, with Mr. J. R. Bovell, F.L.S., Superintendent of Dodds Reformatory and curator of the Agricultural Station, as chairman, was appointed to visit the Islands of Trinidad, Tobago, Dominica, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent, and ascertain certain specific and general information with regard to the suitability of those places as fields for colonization and settlement by emigrants from this Island. The report of the Committee, as well as that of the General Commission on Emigration, was presented to the Legislature and published, and the proposals which the Executive have decided to submit on the subject are now under consideration and will be included in the Report for 1896.

25. There was a great improvement in the general health of the Island in 1895 as compared with 1894, the cause of which was

17

in 1894.

dealt with in the Report for that year. The first half of the year was affected by the continuance of the long drought, but in August the rain came, and though there were outbreaks of typhoid fever in several places, the medical report shows that the year on the whole was a healthy one, and there was a very marked diminution of enteric and bowel diseases.

American food stuffs were cheap, and after the rains the provision gardens supplied the labouring population with abundance of native foods. This improvement in the general health is shown by the decrease in the death rate and in the expenditure of the parochial almshouses under both outdoor and indoor relief.

Death Rate of Barbados.

Decade.			Rate per 1,000.	
1861-1870			-	21.54
1871-1980	-		-	33.66
1881-1890	00000			27.01
1891-1894		1.0-134	-	29.71
One year 189	4*-		-	34.40
One year 189	5 -	-	-	24.40

^{*}See Report for 1894.

Savings Bank.

26. The returns for the past six years show:—

	Year.		No. of Depositors.	Amount at Credit.	Deposits during the Year.	Withdrawals during the Year.	Invested Funds.
1890			9,716	£ 134,521	£ 106,22 9	£ 100,773	£ 138,906
1891		-	9,936	123,284	89,565	94,293	128,840
1892		-	10,420	130,419	80,000	80,013	136,778
1893			10,944	152,924	101,042	82,196	159,924
1894	-		11,322	157,969	93,810	92,974	165,158
1895			11,289	180,584	104,186	85,972	188,379

The bank allows interest at 3 per cent.; the maximum limit to depositors is 300l. and the minimum is one shilling.

Friendly Societies.

27. There were 157 societies on the register on the 31st December 1895; two were registered during the last half year, but two were also struck off.

Ecclesiastical.

28. The cost of this establishment remains the same, 10,352l., the grant to denomination being 700l. to the Wesleyans, 400l. to he Moravians, and 50l. to the Roman Catholics.

manufaction was an Education. was a same a same a same

29. The total expenditure under this head amounted to 16,161% as against 16,750% in 1894. There was a decrease, however, in 1895, for elementary education, of 83%, one school less than in 1894. The amount spent on elementary education in 1895 was 10,414%.

The average attendance of scholars was 14,442 out of a total on the rolls of 27,315 (or very little more than 50 per cent.). Education is not compulsory, but more than 75 per cent. of the children in the island attend school.

The number and standard of the higher and second grade schools were fairly maintained:

Lodge School - - 57 soughor Girls: Queen's College best soughor best seed as 135 mag and 136 Combernere School - 121 Single best soughor best 130 MOOO Single b

Twenty-six girls passed the Cambridge local examination, six with honours.

The Alexandra Girls' School in Speightstown, established in

1894, is progressing very satisfactorily.

Codrington college (affiliated to Durham University). The number of students at the college was 13. Owing to the depression which affected the estates on which the upkeep of the institution mainly depends, the assistant to the principal was withdrawn. Few places are better worth visiting than this beautiful replica of one of the ancient colleges at the English universities.

Imports and Exports.

30. The total imports of the Colony during 1895 amounted to 956,921*l.*, of which 391,434*l.* came from the United Kingdom, 184,154*l.* from British Colonies, and 381,333*l.* from foreign countries.

A comparison with the average of the previous five years 1890-94 shows:—

Year. —ni 98	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.
1890 - 688.52 - 1891 1892 - 778.501 - 1893 1894 Average for 5 years 1890-94	£ 1,193,724 1,067,617 1,081,572 1,372,537 1,279,335 1,198,957	£ 508,698 432,637 469,318 583,086 507,534 500,254	213,256 207,186 195,855 254,404 227,514 219,643	471,770 427,794 416,399 535,047 544,287 479,059
1895 of about deiting and of about the average - to select the large and the select the	956,921 242,036 322,414	108,820 116,100	35,489	97,726

31. In April a change was made in the tariff, by which the duties on certain articles which had been reduced in 1891 in order to meet the requirements of the McKinley tariff (by which the Customs lost annually 12,700l.) were placed at their original rates before 1891, in order to provide for the increased charge on the general revenue for the interest and sinking fund, amounting to 16,875l. of the new waterworks loan. The principal articles affected by the change were bread and crackers, cheese, corn meal, corn or maize, flour, lard, meat, salted or pickled, mules value 12l. 10s. and upwards, and mules under value 12l. 10s., petroleum, pitch, pine wood, staves and shooks, bran, candles, oil, fish, dried and pickled, brandy, sugar, yeast, cake, and baking-powders, paper, molasses, beef and pork preserved in cans, beef, including

The estimated increase in the receipts from these items was

9,000l., and this was fairly realised.

tongues.

32. The falling off in imports from the United Kingdom during 1895 compared with 1894 occurs in—

had should in South the town to calculate the		£
Raw material	-	6,226
Bullion	_	2,784
Live stock, foods, &c		23,661
Manufactured material -	94	83,428
Or a total falling off of -	-	116,099
Under British Colonies there is a falling of	f in	466
invorts and burgortes		£
Live stock and foods, &c.	00.70	19,738
Manufactured material -	-	5,998
Raw material	in-L	15,241
Bullion	-	2,384
Or a total falling off of	1.67	43,361
Under foreign countries there was a decrea	ase :	in—
Total Colonies Colonies Colonies		£
Live stock and food -	-	117,379
Manufactured material	-	20,109
Raw material -	-	25,889
Total -	-	163,377
While there was an importation of bulli-	on.	200,011
not found in 1894, of	-	425
Giving a total falling off of	1	162,952
O		,

These figures show a total diminution of British trade to the amount of 159,460l., also a diminution of 162,953l. with foreign countries.

33. Food Stuffs.—The total value of the principal articles of food consumption, other than liquor and tobacco, amounted in

BARBADOS. 1895.

1894 to 428,403*l.*, and in 1895 to 382,826*l.* Flour was the same in price in 1895 as in 1894, at 18s. per barrel (freight included), and this import decreased from 90,986 barrels in 1894, value 81,887*l.*, to 62,986 barrels, value 56,687*l.*, in 1895. There was a decrease in the value of bread and biscuits of 1s. per 100 lbs. and a decrease in the quantity imported. The amounts imported were in 1894, 6,225,924 lbs., value 34,243*l.*; in 1895, 6,068,104 lbs., value 30,341*l.*

The falling off in the importation of foreign food stuffs was due to the increase in the supply of native grown provisions, sweet-potatoes, yams, &c., after the rains in August, the previous drought having driven the labouring population to depend entirely on imported necessaries of life. It is fortunate, as I remarked in the Report on 1894, that the price of these

commodities were unusually low.

The imports of bacon, beef, and pork, show a decrease for 1895

of 287,098 lbs., value 5,014l.

In salted fish there was an increased importation of 1,168l. in value, and in pickled fish, although 1,320 barrels less were imported, the value having risen from 12s. 6d. to 17s. 6d. per barrel accounts for an increase of 618l.

There was a decrease of corn and maize of 5,259,459 lbs., value 28,329l, principally for stock; price falling from 8s. per 100 lbs. in

1894 to 5s. 6d. per 100 lbs. in 1895.

	7	Year.	Quantity.	Value.
18	94		Lbs. 11,092,245	£ 44,369
18	95		5,832,786	16,040

Hay and Straw.

					I
1894	-			-	8,666
1895		-	-	-	1,777

This decrease is also due to the change from the drought of 1894 and the first half of 1895.

Liquors.—The total value of liquor imported was in 1894 30,677l.; in 1895 22,188l.

Tobacco (all kinds).—Total quantity imported—

taide.	Year.	1000	Quantity.	Value.	
1894	mile se		Lbs. 181,761	£ 9,125	
1895	ablyon	1900	171,684	8,367	

13

Exports.

34. The total value of the exports from the Colony in 1895 was 587,298l., of which 394,591l. was the produce or manufacture of the Island, and 192,707l. British, Foreign, and other Colonial produce and manufactures.

A comparison of the six years from 1890 to 1895 inclusive shows:—

	Year.		Produce or Manufactures of the Colony.	British, Foreign, &c.	Total.
1890	North State of More	79-1	£ 1,040,720	£ 163,670 .	£ 1,204,390
1891		-	621,014	193,241	814,255
1892	ent - depend 1088, D		751,924	174,649	926,573
1893	or sure and the	M.	1,030,513	212,570	1,243,083
894	der one in		772,003	212,509	984,512
	Average for five years	-	843,235	191,327	1,034,562
895		-	394,591	192,707	587,298
	Below the average		448,644	Above average 1,380	447,264
	Below 1894 -		377,412	19,802	397,214

The Produce or Manufacture of the Island.

35. The exports of sugar for the years 1891 to 1895 were:-

	Year.		Year. Muscovado. Dry.				Value.
	ulga	arth deli	imo	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	€
1891	-		-	48,186	2,361	50,547	509,285
1892	147	bang	anti-	56,619	2,630	59,249	605,640
1893			-	63,517	3,640	67,157	851,780
1894	-		-	62,175	3,047	65,222	616,253
1895		July V	-	34,792	1,659	36,451	282,092

It may be of use to show again the direction of this trade during the above period as shown by the shipments of sugar and molasses to the various markets of the world. Sugar.

Year.		United Kingdom.		British Possessions and British North America.		United States.		Foreign Countries.		ExportValue.	
the year (ables and year (able	and sing	Muscovado.	Dry.	Muscovado.	Dry.	Muscovado.	Dry.	Muscovado.	Dry.	Per Ton.	
	To Plant	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	£ s. d.	
1891	PLT OF	3,156	2,357	1,521	4	42,688	Nil	22	Nil	10 0 0	
189	Topped	7,940	2,213	1,448	Nil	47,220	417	110	Nil	10 0 0	
1893	Cabeer r	5,057	3,510	1,682	29	56,092	97	341	Nil	12 10 0	
1894	Richal I	7,110	3,045	4,879	2	50,125	Nil	61	Nil	9 5 0	
1895 -	oto Bu	5,405	1,658	783	1	28,557	Nil	47	Nil	7 10 0	

Molasses.

BARBAINOS.

	Year. United Kingdom.		Year.			British Possessions and British North America.	United States.	Other Foreign Countries.	Export Value.
1891		A		Puns. 103	Puns. 28,058	Puns. 2,720	Puns. 1,417	£ s. d. 3 0 0	
892				291	35,353	6,572	752	3 0 0	
893				385	28,757	13,880	352	4 0 0	
894		12		1,619	34,125	7,649	165	3 5 0	
895				362	25,785	1,665	107	3 10 0	

36. The export in rum has decreased from 12,962 gallons—in 1894 to 8,877 gallons in 1895, showing a falling off of 4,085 gallons. The rum made in the Island and exported in 1895 was distributed as follows as compared with 1894:—

	Year.	United Kingdom.	British West Indies.	British North America.	United States.	Foreign West Indies.	Total.
1894	Sept.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons. 2,219	Gallons.	Gallons. 2,063	Gallons. 12,962
1895		103	7,957	-	-	817	8,877

The remarkable falling off in the export of rum to the United Kingdom from 2,737 gallons in 1894 to 103 gallons in 1895 is again in accord with the remarks of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in presenting the Budget to the House of Commons recently. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, speaking of the Customs receipts says "The taste for rum, except in the most extraordinary " cold weather, appears to be absolutely declining in England. " People prefer as they do in wine what I may call a clearer and " lighter spirit and the receipts from the produce of rum have " materially declined." It will be seen on referring to the report for 1894 that the same coincidence is pointed out in that year. Owing to the prevailing epidemic of influenza the importation of rum into England had very largely increased and accounted for a sudden increase in respect of that article. Since the disappearance of the disease, and owing to an especially mild year in England, the consumption of the spirit has again decreased.

37. The other products of the Island were hides, value 578l., British West Indies took 460l; ice, 333 tons, value 666l., all went to British West Indies; building lime, 1,922l., to British West Indies, 427l. to Foreign West Indies; vegetables (raw) 5,255l., British Guiana alone took 3,822l. and the other British West

Barbados, 1895. Indies 1,363l.; whale oil, 189 barrels, value 284l., Great Britain took the greater portion, 162 barrels, value 243l.; the remainder went to British West Indies and British Guiana.

38. Exports other than the produce of the Colony, 1895:-

	British West Indies and British Guiana and United Kingdom.	Foreign West Indies, United States, &c.
	£	£
Animals	6,603	2,579
Provisions	88,808	18,505
Liquors	7,014	71
Tobacco	1,046	-
Clothing, &c	28,636	885
Household requisites (soap, candles, petroleum, and matches).	2,636	333
Hardware	207	22
Old metal	2,094	
Lumber, white pine-pitch pine, and spruce	1,172	890
Staves, hoops, shingles, &c	2,728	73
Cement, lime, and bricks	682	135
Grain and fodder	6,843	765
Manures	6,184	600
Bullion (all to Great Britain)	788	_
Whale oil	5	5,801
Miscellaneous	4,897	1,705
Totals	160,343	32,364

39. Analysing, as in 1894, the whole trade of Barbados with other countries, the order in which they come, measured by amount of business done in 1895, was as follows:—

Inward Trade, Total Imports, 956,9211.

				£
United Kingdom	-		-	391,434
United States of		#		336,558
British North A	merica	Sign la	-	80,471
British West Ind	lies*	W 3000	mir Pan	68,856
Changed India -			-	34,700
places on the List South America	Lintersol		-	18,498
Foreign West In	diest	Kilozov s	erinos.	14,583
Various Foreign	(aggregate)	-	-	4,794
Various British	1000	arole de	1.07	126
Canary and Cape	e Verde Isla	nds	-	1,840
Whale oil from v	vhaling ship	s	008	5,061
Total -		igh _i to	0.7	956,921

^{*} British Guiana, 24,5911.

[†] Dutch Guiana, 2,6991.

Outward Trade, Total Exports 587,2981.

BARBADOS. 1895.

			£	
United States of America	-	More	226,096	
British West Indies*	-	11-	167,142	
British North America	-	-	95,849	
United Kingdom -	-	-	69,760	
Foreign West Indies†	-	-	25,896	
French Guiana -	-	-	1,079	
South America (Brazil)	-	-	1,273	
Various foreign (aggregate)		-	202	
Total			587,298	

40. Finally, taking the countries in the order of the total business, both inward and outward, we have a total of 1,544,2191., viz.:—

			£
United States -	- 14		562,653
United Kingdom -	-	-	461,194
Changed British West Indies -	-	Market Hill	235,928
places on British North America	4	AFT.	176,321
the List J Foreign West Indies	-	- 1	40,479
Changed India -			34,700
places on South America -			19,577
the List J			20,0
Canary and Cape Verde Isla	nds	-	1,840
French Guiana -	FOR	Al ar-ar	1,273
Various foreign (aggregate)	1		4,997
Various British -	-	mb aru	126
Value of whale oil -	-	-	5,061
2 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -		ALT LA	
Total	-	- 1	,544,219
Shipping.			
11 0			

41. The total number arriving and clearing and which did business with the Customs House, as distinguished from those merely calling and leaving, without discharging or taking in cargo were:—

Entered,

38644			Sailing vessels.		Steamers.		Total.	
	l'ear.		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1894 -	100		850	118,913	337	495,928	1,187	614,841
1895 -	1.20	ate	739	84,938	329	499,768	1,068	584,706

^{*} British Guiana, 44,683l.

[†] Dutch Guiana, 8,773.

o 9269U.

Cleared.

	Sailing	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Total.	
Year.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons	
1894	- 852	121,477	337	496,094	1,189	617,571	
1895	- 736	84,777	330	500,418	1,066	585,195	

Showing a total decrease in tonnage, due to the diminished sugar export last year; the gradual displacement of the sailing ship by the steamer continues.

Of the 729 sailing vessels (84,938 tons) which entered, 634 (with an aggregate of 51,593 tons) were British; and of the 105 foreign vessels (33,345 tons) 10 (3,622 tons) were from Great Britain.

Of the 329 steamers (499,768 tons) 117 (203,705 tons) came from Great Britain and 147 (203,533 tons) came from British ports in North America or the West Indies.

42. TOTAL NUMBER of VESSELS calling at the port (including the above which had trade with the island).

	Yea	r.	r	otal No. of Ships.	Tonnage.	Trading Steamers.	Tonnage
890	13,16	- 050 - 150 - 150	30.20	2,475	1,177,169	432	571,989
891	-		-	2,089	1,061,789	352	572,780
892	- 63	1 1	- 63	2,010	1,076,956	411	597,511
893	-		-	2,079	1,034,890	386	538,195
894	1.89	- 989	- 189	1,808	910,669	403	562,266
895	2	100	- 88	1,714	916,766	405	608,821

43. These returns, when analysed, give the following numbers of vessels belonging to the several countries named. There are a few from other countries which are not noticed.

19

Nationality.		1890.		1891.		1892.		1893.		1894.		1895.	
		No. Tons.		No.	Tons.								
British -	.Jugarto	1,656	759,135	1,367	658,645	1,338	681,281	1,402	722,635	1,264	675,258	1,173	693,306
American -	a Jon	220	141,742	211	170,330	206	167,333	170	84,406	125	60,155	108	48,467
Norwegian -	9110	311	148,955	261	131,538	283	131,961	256	125,325	205	87,531	197	92,738
Swedish -	White	56	21,683	48	18,485	54	24,133	44	19,662	34	12,884	38	13,835
Italian -	01,1108	51	32,621	35	20,264	34	18,970	58	33,453	27	16,233	40	21,034
German -	r port	57	27,989	44	25,438	46	25,756	45	20,032	36	22,000	33	16,700
French -	othe r	27	10,189	32	12,165	27	12,429	25	10,078	30	10,648	15	4,558
Dutch -		8	-	- 9	-			28	3,466	31	3,598	55	5,275

These figures include vessels of all descriptions. The return shows a falling off in number and tonnage of vessels of all the above nationalities excepting Italian and Dutch, which last shows an increase of 24 for 1895 over 1895.

Particulars of the principal steamer lines trading here were given in the Report for 1894.

Gaols and Prisoners.

44. The total cost of the prison in 1895 was 5,067l. 2s. 7d. as against 4,746l. 16s. 7d. in 1894.

	Year.			Ad	ults.	Juve	eniles.	m-4-1	Daily	Annual Cost per
		oan.	Males. Females. Males. Females.		Females.	Total.	Average.	Head.		
1894				1,852	1,824	77	10	3,763	356	£ s. d.
1895				2,334	1,942	65	8	4,349	422	12 0 1

There were 1,814 punishments in 1895, as against 1,122 in 1894. During 1895, 10 prisoners were released on ticket-of-leave under the mark system.

Industrial Labour

45. The es	stimated value	of labour perfe	ormed	£	s.	d.
by male labo	our outside the	e prison, quar	rying			
stone and bu	ilding, was		-	369	15	4
		tailors' shop	and			
		shoemakers		81	16	8
,,	,,	blacksmiths	and			
		tinsmiths	_*	24	19	4
,,	,,	bakery -		853	18	5
"	"	carpenters	and			
		painters	KV -00	23	6	8
21	,,	masons -	-	89	10	8
		Total -		1,443	7	1
				-		
				£	s.	d.
Famala	labour fibro	makina		57		<i>a</i> . 8
r emare	labour, fibre	_				
"	" laundi	у		172	13	4
	m				11	
	To	tal		230	11	0
				- man		

Reformatory.

46							
	Admissions	-		Last 1		30	
	Discharges	-	-	-	-	34	
	Deaths -		-		-	0	
	Daily average	Pri-one	hist-rise	0 -		120	
	Expenditure :-						
						£	
	1895 -	-	-	-	- 1	,684	
	1894 -	de Tour		200	- 1	1,832	

The boys were occupied in planting $24\frac{1}{2}$ acres for the crop of 1896, and in cultivating the new varieties of canes for the demands from planters found it necessary to substitute them for the Bourbon variety, which has been grown here successfully for many years, but which has shown special liability to the attacks of the tungus disease. A recreation ground was also laid out. This part of reformatory training has not been sufficiently considered here. There is a growing need for more use being made of this institution, for the number of juvenile criminals is fast increasing. The present reformatory is capable of taking in a considerably larger number than it has now, but the funds for effecting this are not at present available.

Hospitals and Poor Relief.

47. The total expenditure under this head was:-

ferelie (Link) General	1895.	1894.
314- (33)	£	£
	7,409	6,433
ang-	5,427	5,584
	2,700	2,783
	15,536	14,800
e folk u sud	16,780	18,045
allon (allon		32,845
	disqual discontinue di santa	£ - 7,409 - 5,427 - 2,700 - 15,536

The Statistical returns give the following totals:-

Institution.	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.	Daily Average.	
General Hospital -		3,452	3,216	262	220
Lunatic Asylum -		103	45	66	316
Leper Asylum -	-	13		15	116
Parochial Almshouses	-	1,952	1,537	452	698
Totals		5,520	4,798	795	1,350

The total number of cases treated both indoors and outdoors during the year, was as follows:—

Total number of Cases relieved or treated.

	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Medical Relief (visited or Dispensary Cases).	Total.
General Hospital -	3,890		18,684	22,574
Lunatic Asylum -	734	ar dal in i da	Tollie (tollie)	734
Leper Asylum -	249		1577 7 201 5910 1	249
Parochial Alms- houses.	3,334	4,788	12,677	20,799
Total -	8,207	4,788	31,361	44,356

Total expenditure by parochial institutions on above :-

					£
Indoor -	-		-	4000	6,663
Outdoor -	-	The same of	-	-	2,925
Medical -	-		-		5,047
Miscellaneous	4081	report for	edi.		2,148
		Total	th sug roll in	tie fang	16,783

48. The Poor Law Inspector in his report for the second half-year July to December 1895, remarks, "The local inspectors had "notice of 3,536 cases, of which 3,173 were relieved in one way "or another, and 363 (or about 10 per cent.) were rejected. The "work was on the whole done promptly and, as far as I could judge, carefully.".... "The lines on which the different boards work are widely divergent and allowance has to be made for this; cases which are received with open arms in some parishes being altogether rejected under the system adopted in other parishes."

49. This want of uniformity has long been pointed out by the Poor Law Inspector and an attempt was made this year by the Government to effect the object by submitting to the Legislature a Bill to create a central board, the members of which were to be elected by the several parishes, and only the president by the Governor. The object of this was that matters of principle which were settled by the central board should be carried out with such uniformity in detail as the circumstances of the several almshouses or parishes might permit. But the representatives of the constituencies feared that the rights and privileges of the individual ve-tries would be unduly interfered with, and the measure fell through.

With one or two exceptions, however, there is, as the Inspector's reports show, a gradual tendency to greater uniformity in most matters relating to poor relief, the great subject of difference being the out-door system as contrasted with indoor relief, and this is about the most important point on which there should be

uniformity of principle as well as of practice.

Meteorological Observations.

of the dry weather of 1894. The total rainfall from 1st January to 31st July was 21:40 inches, of which 7:64 inches fell in January, being less than 14 inches for the following six months. The rains came in August, the rainfall for that month being 10:59 as against 2:13 for July, and they were fairly distributed over the remainder of the year. The total rainfall was 73:32 inches in 193 days, that for 1894 was 39:14 inches in 143 days. The highest rainfall was in September, 14:93 inches in 21 days. Mean barometrical pressure was 29:927 inches. The extreme range of the temperature was from 86:4° (Fahrenheit) to 70:4,° the mean ranging from 83:8° to 76:2°. There were no gales or thunderstorms doing any damage. The records are made at the Reformatory Agriculture Station, situate 210 feet above the sea level.

General.

51. As anticipated in the report for 1894, the long drought and the ravages of the fungus disease most scriously affected the canes, and the exported crop for the season 1894-95 fell to 36,451 hogsheads, or 29,036 hogsheads short of the average for the last five years.

This in its turn reduced the average imports by 242,036l, while the straitened resources of the proprietors and the difficulty of raising further advances in the face of the low price of sugar prevented them in many instances from supplying their fields with

the necessary quantity of manures.

52. Matters had assumed a very serious aspect for the planters, and the want of employment was showing itself in acts of lawlessness on the part of the labouring population, in some places firing canes, digging up potato fields. The police force were, however, quite able to deal with the mischief, and a number of

BARBADOS. 1895. Barbados. 1895 riotous potato stealers were sent to prison after trial by the

Supreme Court.

With the August rains a change for the better came over the face of the Island, and a general improvement in everything was apparent. At the same time there was an indication of a rise in price in sugar markets, which opened the purse strings of bankers and others who had money to advance to the planters, while the labouring population found ample employment in the cane fields and in their own plots of provision gardens.

53. The unhappy war, which is still devastating the great Island of Cuba, resulted in a falling off in the export of sugar from there to America of 77,000 tons against 1,000,000 tons in the previous year, and there was a large deficiency in the estimated

beet crop in Europe.

54. Both these causes have given, for a time at any rate, an upward tendency in the price of cane sugar and a corresponding impulse to the industry throughout the West Indies. Encouraged by the favourable change in the weather and price, and with the means of obtaining the necessary supplies for their estates, our planters have energetically set to work to repair their losses.

Estates which had been falling into the hands of the Receiver in Chancery were bought out. The Government Experimental Agricultural Station worked by the reformatory boys entirely was largely drawn on for those varieties of canes which the skill and care and untiring perseverance of those in charge had, by practical experience in cultivating them under every possible change of soil and treatment, determined as being less subject than others to the fatal fungus disease, and though a few individuals still cherish the old prolific Bourbon cane, now sadly prolific in fungus, the majority have replaced them by what are known as the "hardy varieties," "Caledonian Queen," "Bourke," "transparent," and others.

Too much importance cannot be given to the result of the discovery made some years ago at this station of propagating varieties of canes by seedlings. Had we in this emergency been obliged to send to other countries for supplies of new varieties of canes instead of turning to our own nurseries the result would

have been very different—in fact, disastrous.

55. It is not of course to be expected that the Island will recover itself in 1896. The rains were too late, the supplies of manure too short, the full knowledge of the new varieties of canes, each of which has some special peculiarity of its own to be studied, too imperfect to ensure a full crop; but that we shall be able to report a very great and substantial improvement on 1895 when it comes to the report for 1896 I have no doubt whatever.

G. RUTHVEN LE HUNTE, Colonial Secretary.

27th May 1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 152.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1894-5.

(For Report for 1893-94, see Colonial Report [Annual] No. 123.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Col	ony.				Year.
117	Trinidad and Tobago					1893
118	Falkland Islands -		1.1		-	"
119	Rodrigues	-			_	"
120	Mauritius	-				"
.21	Straits Settlements -	_		-	-	"
122	Labuan	-		-	-	"
123	Basutoland -	-	-			1893-4
124	St. Lucia	-	-	_		1893
125	St. Helena -	_		-	-	, ,,
126	Ceylon				1.7-	"
127	Fiji -	-			-	"
128	Grenada	-		-	-	"
129	Sierra Leone -					"
130	British Bechuanaland			-	-	1893-4
131	British New Guinea	-			_	1892-3 &
	Reflerance against James					1893-4
132	Lagos					1893
133	British Guiana -	_				1893-4
134	Jamaica	-			-	,,
135	Newfoundland -	-				1893
136	Gold Coast	- Jan	10-1 1	41.5		,,
137	Zululand	-				1894
138	Bermuda	-			-	>5
139	Bahamas	-	-	-	-	"
140	Barbados	_	_		_	"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	-			-	,,
142	Malta	-		-		"
143	Gambia	-	_			,,
144	Windward Islands -				_	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago					"
146	Gibraltar		-		-	"
147	Falkland Islands -					
148	Hong Kong -					"
149	Straits Settlements -			7		
150	Lagos	-			_	"
151	Seychelles					"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.			Subject.
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -		-	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	-		Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -	-	-	Geology and Botany. Emigration.

No. 152.

BASUTOLAND.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95.

[For Report for 1893-94, see Colonial Report [Annual] No. 123.]

SIR HERCULES ROBINSON to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Cape Town,

SIR, August 19, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your information, a copy of a Despatch from the Acting Resident Commissioner of Basutoland enclosing the annual reports on the territory for the

year to 30th June last.

It is satisfactory to find that the dispute between Lerothodi and his brother Maama, which at one time threatened to be very serious, has been disposed of, and that no other important tribal dispute is now demanding attention. I trust that the land troubles, arising from the growth of the large native population in Basutoland will not become serious, but I fear that there are some grounds for apprehension on this account.

I consider that a fair amount of improvement is shown to have

occurred in almost every branch of the Administration.

I have, &c.

HERCULES ROBINSON,
Governor and High Commissioner.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,

SIR, June 29, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency a report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1895, covering copies of a report by the Acting Government Secretary, together with those of Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers.

2. The personality of the Paramount Chief is so great a factor in national affairs, that it is well to glance at his character from year to year, and see how far it appears to adjust itself to the conditions of the tribe and the circumstances of the time.

o 88690. Wt. 20348.

4

Lerothodi's intemperance was a distinctive feature in his In last year's report, I expressed the belief previous history. that he had then made a powerful effort to eschew drink, and it is now with great satisfaction I am able to confirm the impression, and state that the past year has in this respect been marked by so great an improvement as to warrant particular notice of it.

Apart from this, he has displayed grasp of work, a desire to be guided by obligations which now obtain, and a true interest in the welfare of his tribe. He has desired and endeavoured to deserve the support and encouragement of Government, with whom he shows every disposition to co-operate in avoiding foreign complications, in checking and punishing crime, and in reminding his people of their duties and traditions as a law-abiding and industrious tribe.

3. In the past few years allusion has been made to opposition experienced by Lerothodi from a section of younger brothers inspired by Masupha, who sought to undermine the Paramount

Chief's authority and grasp at independence.

My last report described the trend of this policy, showing how, in the course of its development, there had been critical moments which might have led to grave confusion through the determined and obstinate attitude of Maama and the injudicious conduct of Lerothodi himself. I then worked for the becoming submission of Maama to his elder brother, but refused to lend myself to what was deemed the Paramount Chief's improper method of procedure.

In August last, the crisis of this intrigue, which had transcended

all other affairs for several years, was reached.

The Paramount Chief had, in the lawful exercise of his functions, adjudged a native case affecting a man within his jurisdiction, who, however, courted the Chieftainship of Maama. The judgment

of fine was treated for months with contempt.

Maama backed the defaulter, disputed jurisdiction, and defied execution. In due time, Lerothodi sent messengers with instructions to call for and, if necessary, levy the fine. The messengers acted accordingly, but were, on their return journey, set upon by Maama's people, the fine recaptured, and one messenger wounded, who afterwards died from the effects.

The Paramount Chief had up to this time acted in a judicial, patient, and forbearing spirit. He had previously pressed me to take up the matter, which however, I had declined, advising him to first exhaust all proper means to settle their own immediate

affairs in council.

The treatment and death of the messenger roused his emotions, the nation, wrung with excitement, was called out under arms, and the two parties arrayed themselves at close quarters for a struggle.

The approaches to Maama's country were fortified with walls and he expressed his resolve to oppose Lerothodi's advance and Masupha and others threw in their lot with Maama.

At this juncture the Paramount Chief appealed to me to take up the burden of the affair, as a combat was imminent which he could not control. I then intervened, and arriving on the scene BASUTOLAND. as the forces were almost in motion, took command of the situation.

1894-95.

Masupha, who as an elder and guardian should have been on the side of order, was so implicated as to forbid my securing his

aid and advice. Many other Chiefs afforded me help.

Seeing that Lerothodi had acted well within his rights and was not to blame, I formed a court with him and summoned Maama, together with those charged with contempt and violence, who, after some demur ascribed to fear, appeared under escort of an officer sent to give a safe conduct.

The case occupied two days in public Pitso.

Most of the leading Chiefs and councillors of the nation were present and condemned Maama's acts in unmistakeable terms.

He and his people were found culpable and eager to disturb the

public peace. Judgment was given that:

- 1. Maama pay a fine of 100 cattle. His people pay a fine of 200 cattle. His two chief councillors pay a fine of 5 cattle each.
- 2. That the man who struck the blow which killed the messenger be delivered up for trial.

3. That some lawless men living on the border line be removed

and their villages immediately destroyed.

4. That a young son of Letsie named Borane, who had taken a leading part in the disturbance, be handed over for tutelage.

5. That the people living within the disputed area known as Koro Koro take their orders in future from Lerothodi and

not from Maama.

This judgment was carried out effectively and the fines paid the next day. The young Chief Borane fled on horseback, but was soon surrendered and placed in my hands by Lerothodi for custody in prison, where he remained for three months, behaving

well, and was then enrolled as an ordinary policeman.

I considered it inexpedient to then define Maama's southern boundary, seeing that feeling against him was very strong and the evidence about it liable to prejudice. Moreover, it was to be hoped that, when antipathies subsided, his and Lerothodi's people would again blend without the necessity for lines, always objectionable in this country if avoidable.

The events which for years led up to this affair and its consummation form an historical landmark, and may be regarded as an upheaval, such as is common to most nations, through which the Basuto steadied themselves in time and became amenable to advice

and reason. This is to their credit.

4. There have been other political events and disputes which, though dwarfed in importance by the one above mentioned, gave considerable trouble.

The land question is the great and fertile source of such troubles, requiring continuous attention. They may be expected to recur annually. The country is circumscribed, the population

is growing, the land suitable for cultivation is all allotted and taken up, and the rising generation of men are no longer able to support themselves upon it. When leading Chiefs die, a scramble ensues over the inheritance amongst the children. We have during the year witnessed a serious stage in the scramble over the late Paramount Chief's inheritance. Others of a similar but less critical nature arose from the same source.

Jonathan claimed a large share of the mountain pastures as having been inherited by him from his father Molapo.

Lerothodi took exception to this as a claim, but awarded him, after much persuasion, a certain proportion which was, however, received with little grace and created a good deal of ill-feeling between the two Chiefs, who are still feinting about it.

The mountains, formerly common pasture, are being largely occupied and cultivated and contain practically no unallotted spheres.

The Paramount Chief has undertaken at a future date to make a personal inspection of the inner mountains, where he has never

yet been, and to further consider Jonathan's plea.

Similarly, the clans and children of Ramanella and Matela, unsettled ever since the death of those Chiefs, have quarrelled over the inheritances.

Though both Chiefs lived in Leribe District under the fiscal chieftainship of Jonathan Molapo, they have always owed direct fealty to the Paramount Chief. Lerothodi and Jonathan differed over tribal details and complications ensued. These matters have, however, been provisionally adjusted by the timely mediation of Government and efforts made to reconcile conflicting interests.

Further cases affecting chieftainship and land have been treated at discretion by district officers when necessity arose.

About new year some mischievous rumours were circulated through the medium of an aged sorceress who prophesied invasion, disarmament, and other things. But little serious attention was paid to the rumours, which died a natural death.

5. The general temper of the Basuto may be described as progressive. The characteristics of the Kaffir race predominate, and it would be unwise to attempt vigorous eradication or to graft prematurely upon them European ideas and institutions neither

suitable nor sympathetic.

They are naturally suspicious of all innovations and cling affectionately to their country. So long as their customs are not generally repugnant to civilized thought and they are amenable to such laws as are necessary to govern them and their relations with civilized neighbours, there is motive for the exercise of forbearance during their efforts towards development. Though some superstitions may influence them, it is hard to trace in the present day any relics of a national religion. The ethics of Christianity have intervened, and may be said to supply their doctrines of morality. It would be quite incorrect, however, to suppose that the nation was moral in practice.

39

The industry of the people is proverbial; some 25,384 have BASUTOLAND. again gone abroad to labour during the year. They learn the discipline of labour and appreciate the corresponding value of money, acquiring at the same time probably such vices as are readily picked up in their travels, and losing some of the qualities which the primitive native is acknowledged to possess.

6. In suppressing crime and facilitating the ends of justice the

Chiefs, as a rule, behaved well.

One of Masupha's sons, believed to have been accessory to thieving, was brought up for trial, but dismissed for want of

sufficient evidence, which no doubt was concealed.

Letsienyana, eldest son of Lerothodi, who has charge of a large ward and receives an allowance, misconducted himself in various ways, interfered with the jurisdiction of his magistrate, and tortured a man on account of alleged witchcraft. He was punished for the latter act and suspended for three months.

Lesala, eldest son of Chopo, a Chief of the Bapushudi, being concerned in cattle-thieving and gun-running, was arrested and tried and is now with eight followers undergoing sentence of

imprisonment.

7. A demand has lately sprung up for industrial teaching. Paramount Chief solicits the building of a school of industry in Central Basutoland. I replied that it would be too big an undertaking for Government, but, should the people really cherish the idea, they should come forward and provide the means for such an institution, in which case Government would surely direct their efforts and control it for them.

They are able to bear the burden of their own advancement in such ways, and, if willing, should be encouraged to help themselves. It is necessary, nevertheless, to bear in mind, that ordinary labour is itself a great industry, desirable of cultivation, that South Africa requires ordinary labour largely, and that a preponderance of natives skilled in technical trades might not be beneficial to themselves or their surroundings.

8. The liquor traffic, though less than formerly, is by no means extinguished. Our police, who patrolled 32,168 miles, have done good work towards suppression, and neighbouring officials co-operated most cordially in putting down border canteens, and deprecating the traffic.

But, so long as a class of persons disposed to pursue covertly an illicit and profitable trade exist on one side of a border, a native race on the other side is easily tempted to gratify its

vicious tastes regardless of consequences.

Though Chiefs readily support the law when offenders are caught, some of them are the worst offenders, debauching heavily

if they can procure spirits.

9. Trade generally during the year has been very bad, owing in a great measure to almost entire failure of the mealie crop, which is a primary purchasing power. The amended railway rates afforded facilities for clearance of previously accumulated

stocks, mortgaged to Colonial and Free State merchants who feed Basutoland with merchandize.

As railways close in, the business of riding transport is becoming more and more more limited, and the traffic to and from Basutoland offers a useful field for this enterprise to a large class of Free State Burghers, who pursue it with lucrative results.

10. The crops of cereals promise one of the most prolific yields of recent years. Kaffir corn especially is abundant, so much so that it is feared the manufacture of "beer" may yield an abundant crop of disputes and broken heads as the outcome of festive gatherings. Prolific seasons are also conducive to laziness.

11. A remarkable development of the year may be indicated in These have been held at most the success of agricultural shows. Their institution and success are due of the magisterial stations. to the inspiration and labour of Assistant Commissioners, aided materially by committees of established traders, who have cordially supported the movement, to which also the Basutoland Chamber of Commerce has lent an impetus. The results have been to show the natives what kind of grain to grow with profit, to enlighten them upon the subject of agriculture and the advantage of improving class of cereals and quality of stock. The manufacture of pottery, carosses, reims, marketable wire-work the rearing of poultry, and the commercial value of better and cleaner wool have, amongst other things, formed part of what may be termed this educational scheme, which we are led to think may be of great advantage.

These shows have received every practicable encouragement from the Government, and the people are being taught to support them by contributions towards the expenses, hitherto borne

largely and voluntarily by the white community.

12. Statistics show a slight increase in serious crime as well as in minor offences. This may be the results of increased police activity and a greater tendency to refer certain cases to our courts.

13. The volume of export in grain, in spite of the mealie failure, is in excess of last year. This is due to accumulated stocks. Imports for the calendar year ended 31st December 1894 show a heavy falling off; but in the subsequent half year there was considerable improvement.

14. Hospital work here has, in the opinion of medical officers,

been satisfactorily maintained.

Though the return of ordinary attendances was lessened, the experiment of small charges to cover partial cost of medicines proved successful and had the effect of keeping off many cases of a trifling and vexatious nature.

Though the general health has been good, epidemics of small-pox prevailed in two districts. Vaccination was largely carried

on; some 32,234 were vaccinated.

All possible efforts were made to check spread of the disease by isolation and other preventive measures.

Medical opinion is to the effect that syphilis continues to yield gradually to the treatment afforded. The medical officers have for many months been employed upon an exhaustive inquiry upon the subject of leprosy, a separate report* on which is transmitted.

The supply of good water to certain magistracies, where there are locations and the want is badly felt, is calculated to do much

good from a health point of view.

15. The successful efforts reported last year in limiting the period of hut-tax collection have been repeated, and the system is now fairly established. Berea district again forms a notable exception in consequence of the inertness of Masupha who, whether from old age or ineptitude, fails to lead his people to keep pace

with useful movements of a progressive nature.

16. Education continues to be carried on effectively by the various mission societies, whose efforts and devotion merit every praise and encouragement. Their work is at times very uphill, and there is probably little reward to be found in the gratitude of their pupils; but the results of their unobtrusive labours may be seen in a variety of ways. Manual labour forms part of the curriculum at all training schools, and the honour of labour is being generally preached.

A separate educational report is forwarded.*

17. In drawing attention to the reports of the Acting Government Secretary, dealing more fully with statistics, and other officers of the administration, I beg leave to express appreciation of their good and effective services as a body.

I have, &c.

His Excellency
The High Commissioner,
Cape Town.

G. Y. LAGDEN, Acting Resident Commissioner.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1894-95.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The general revenue of the territory has been well maintained and is slightly in excess of that of the previous year. Increases are shown under the heads Hut Tax, Post Office, and Miscellaneous.

The total receipts amounted to 44,627l. made up as follows:—

Heads of Revenue.							Amo	ount	
				ur II.			£	s.	d.
Colonial contribu	tion	- 4			-	-	18,000	0	0
Hut tax -	-	-			-	-	21,905	9	6
Post Office -				-		-	1,071	18	9
Licences -			-			-	1,392	5	0
Fines -		-		-		-	381	3	9
Ferry tolls -		-					521	15	9
Fees -	-	-	-	-		-	48	14	3
Miscellaneous rec	eipts					-	1,305	18	10
Total						-	44,627	5	10

^{*} Not printed.

Arrear Tax received amounted to 1,109l. as against 1,882l, last year. Tax was paid on 44,677 huts, compared with 40,629 in 1893-4.

The expenditure for the above period totalled 43,064l being 1,072l. less than estimated.

Trade and Commerce.

The dutiable goods imported into Basutoland during the year ended 31 December 1894 amounted to a gross value of 68,674l.

being 29,326l. less than in 1893.

The serious decline in the volume of imports compared with the previous year is no doubt due to the severe depression in trade from which the country has been suffering, and the consequent fall in the prices of all agricultural produce.

The principal articles of import are woollen and cotton goods haberdashery, saddlery, tinware, agricultural implements, and groceries. The three first items represent respectively 45, 8 50 and 9 50 per cent. of the whole imports. The bulk of the merchandize is supplied by the United Kingdom.

Exports for the year 1894, while exceeding those of 1893 to a considerable extent in volume, show, however, a large falling off

in the declared value.

The chief articles of export consisting, as they do, of agricultural products (food stuffs) subject to the fluctuations of uncertain markets, falls in prices realised must necessarily affect, to a considerable extent, the purchasing power of the people whose medium of exchange it is.

The decline in the value of exports amounts to 20,550l.

Below is a statement of exports, which is exclusive of produce taken out of Basutoland by hawkers and natives, of which it is impossible to get a return.

		AN KANAGOK K	1893.				1894.		
Artic	le.	Quantity.	Val	ue.	15 1 46 24	Quantity.	Val	ue.	
Wheat - Mealies - Kaffir corn Meal - Wool - Mohair - Cattle - Horses - Miscellaneous	- Bags - " - " - Lbs No.	128,740 65,779 4,764 2,843 972,505 30,460 715 220	792	2 11 8 11 10	d. 0 0 2 6 0 6 0 0 4	129,821 68,101 6,526 921 903,791 68,449 639 519	£ 44,426 16,265 2,528 644 12,411 2,151 2,072 2,157 751	9	d 0 0 0 2 0 3 0 9 0 2
Total			103,608	0	6		83,407	10	4

Agricultural and Meteorological.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95.

The harvest now being reaped is an abundant one; maize and

Kaffir corn are exceptionally so.

Agricultural shows, a new feature in the annals of this country, have been held with considerable success at the various magistracies. These have been initiated, liberally supported, and carried out by the European residents, the Government contributing in each case.

It is hoped by the aid of these shows to bring home to the Basuto the necessity, if they wish to compete in the foreign markets, of producing cereals of a higher quality, both by planting better seed as well as by adopting a more enlightened

system of cultivation.

Some of them are already showing an advancement in their methods, and several steam-threshing machines were brought into the country and used to a considerable extent last year. A mill has been erected near Maseru and is freely used by the natives, I am told.

No epidemics have been reported among stock, which is now increasing to such an extent as to present a serious problem in

regard to the provision of pasturage.

This overstocking, together with neglect in the matter of sires, is leading to deterioration, which is now very noticeable in the ponies; stock, cattle especially, being the native standard of wealth, all animals are jealously accumulated and seldom is a beast disposed of. It is impossible to form an estimate of the live stock now in Basutoland.

The average rainfall for the year was 34.23 inches. The daily range of temperature is at times great, being as much as 50°. The

maximum registered was 100° and minimum 18°.

Population.

Population is increasing steadily both by natural increase and immigration. According to the Census of 1891 there was a total

of 211,324 souls; it is now estimated at 250,000.

It has become a difficult matter to provide ground for the rising generation. This is strikingly illustrated by the manner in which every available acre of space in the mountains, hitherto reserved as pasture land, is being greedily taken up and cultivated.

Labour and Passes.

Labour is both plentiful and cheap in the territory.

Numbers of men go annually to the mining centres and adjoining States to work, bringing back with them considerable sums of money. Of late years, owing to the more extended use of labour-

saving machinery in the agricultural districts of the Free State, a very lucrative field has been much diminished. During the past year the following passes were issued:—

Labour.		Other	purposes.	Totals.		
1893–4.	1894-5.	1893–4.	1894–5.	1893-4.	1894-5	
20,000	25,384	32,207	37,495	52,207	62,879	

Police and Crime.

The police force of the country consists of-

- 11 European Officers.
- 12 European Constables.
- 17 Native N. C. Officers.
- 205 Native Privates.

The efficiency and conduct of the men are good.

The force is broken up into small detachments stationed at the various Magistracies. The duties the men are called upon to perform are varied and arduous, among the most important of which may be mentioned patrolling of the border in suppression of brandy smuggling and the tracing of stolen stock.

Although it may appear at first sight that the results of the patrols set forth below are poor in comparison with the work done, it must be borne in mind that with a large population living along the boundary, who are in sympathy with smugglers, and never fail to seize an opportunity of frustrating the police, the difficulties of the duty are greatly increased.

The following is a return of patrols:-

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Approximate Distance travelled.	Arrests.
751	1,663	32,168 miles	Contravention of liquor laws 54 Do. of pass laws - 155 Other offences 44
,01	7 10 10 10		Total 253

In nearly every instance where lost or stolen stock has been traced into Basutoland from the neighbouring states, the animals

have been recovered and restored. Subjoined is a return of such BASUTOLAND. 1894-95. stock :-

Stock.	Reported . lost.	Traced into Basutoland.		Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	102	38	64	35	67	2 recovered in Orange Free State. 2 traced out of Basutoland again.
Cattle	134	48	86	47	87	14 recovered and found dead by owners.
Sheep	155	20	135	19	136	1 killed. 33 found by owners.
Goats	- 20	18	2	-	20	2 goats found by owners.

The returns of crime show an increase of 158 cases in excess of reports for 1893-4, chiefly, however, in minor charges and contraventions of the pass laws. Small increases occur in convictions for theft (principally of stock) and breaches of the liquor laws. On the other hand, there is a decrease in the number of homicide charges.

Below is a list of convictions during the year :-

Assault -				_	20
Birth, concealment of		-		-	2
Customs Regulations, br	each of	-			4
Contempt of Court	-	-	-	-	1
Drunk and creating distr	urbance	-	10 m	- 1	3
Firearms, breach of laws	regardi	ing		-	1
Forgery -		-	100	-	1
Fraud -	• lining	20 - 25-5	11.00	1	3
Homicide, culpable	1.	- 70		-	7
Liquor laws, breach of	1-11	-			60
Murder -	a) - v kana	-	715 - Tue-3		1
Pass laws, breach of	-	-	1	- 1	65
Rape	de line	-		- L	2
Resisting Police -	-	-	Maria de la	-	9
Theft	-	- 12	-	15-	77
Unspecified minor charg	es	-		50-17	61
Service Service Services					-
Total -	12	-	10-1	- 4	417

Civil suits adjudicated upon numbered 23.

Gaols.

Prison accommodation has been now provided at each station throughout the territory. The gaols are in good repair, and are carefully kept in sanitary condition. The health of prisoners has been good; no serious illness or deaths have occurred.

The number of prisoners received into gaol was 338.

total number in prison on 30th June was 79.

Education.

With the exception of two undenominational schools, all the schools in Basutoland are conducted by the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, English Church, and Roman Catholic missions. Those schools which receive Government grants-in-aid have been inspected by officers who report, on the whole, fair progress.

Industrial training is afforded by the Paris Evangelical Society and Roman Catholic Mission for both boys and girls. The former are being instructed in stone-cutting, building, blacksmithing, and other useful handicrafts. Many who have passed out of the institutes may be found carrying on their trades in various parts.

The girls are taught useful domestic work.

A number of lads have been placed at Lovedale by the Government for the purpose of being taught trades. Latest reports of their progress are gratifying.

The total number of schools in the territory is 144, with 7,543 scholars on the books, having a mean average attendance of 5,131. Grants on account of education aggregated 3,799l. 4s. 5d.

Public Works.

During the past year new quarters have been provided for a medical officer at Quthing, a gaol at Berea, and quarters for the Government Secretary at Maseru. This last was necessary, that officer having hitherto occupied a dwelling-house held on lease, which it was desirable to discontinue.

Waterworks have been carried out at Mafeteng, Quthing, and a supplementary line of piping laid at Maseru. All of these works were urgently required for health reasons, the supplies of water at those stations being both inadequate and impure.

Other useful works in the way of maintenance of public buildings, ponts, ferry-boats, and bye roads have been carried out.

In July last contracts were entered into for the repair and maintenance of the main roads throughout the country by a private contractor. Now, after a twelvementh trial of the experiment, I think I may say that, from reports furnished me, it has been on the whole successful. The work has been carried out satisfactorily at a saving to the department of expense, and of the time of officers, which has been devoted to other duties.

Post Office and Telegraphs.

The Basutoland postal system has been affiliated to that of the Cape Colony since the present Administration took over the country in 1884, and is administered by the Postmaster General, Cape Town. Postal revenue for the year ended 30th June 1895, was 1,071l. 18s. 9d., of which 896l. 1s. was earned by the Post Office, and 175l. 17s. 7d. by the telegraphs.

The total expenditure for the year has been 1934l. 2s. 4d., BASUTOLAND. distributed as follow:—

Expenditure.						Amount.		
Salaries			-			£ 375	s. 12	d. 7
Conveyance of mails	-1				-	1,486	12	1
Offices requisites and co	st of ad	lministra	tion		-	71	17	8
Total -	-			-		1,934	2	4

Mail services are regularly maintained in connection with the Cape Colony and Orange Free State by both cart and horse-post. The numbers of the different mail matter posted in Basutoland during the 12 months to 31st March are as follows:—

Letters.	No.
Posted for delivery in Basutoland, Cape Colony, and Orange Free State at 1d.	70,984
For British Protectorate and Mashonaland at 4d	312
Bechuanaland, Natal, and South African Republic at 2d	5,824
United Kingdom and Foreign at $2\frac{1}{2}d$	7,825
Registered letters	715
Post-cards	2,576
Newspapers	14,536
Book packets and samples	5,735
Parcels	1,326

Official correspondence carried free amounted to 8,852 letters, and 20,604 books, valued at 116l. 13s. 10d. Correspondence received for delivery was as follows:—

Letters	-	•	-	-	-	122,782
Post-cards			-	-	-	1,973
Books	-		-	-	-	13,091
Papers	-			•	-	47,320
Parcels	-		-	•	-	8,965

Two stations in Basutoland viz., Maseru and Mafeteng, are in telegraphic communication with the systems of the Cape Colony and Orange Free State. The length of lines open is approximately 13 miles.

During the year ending 31st March the following messages have been despatched and received:—

			No.	Words.
Paid messages despatched -	-	-	2,652	32,130
Government messages despatched	-	-	454	12,176
Messages received for delivery	-		2,645	39,423

The value of Government messages despatched was 65l.

Money Order and Savings Bank business is conducted at all post offices in Basutoland, and the following figures may be of interest.

Money Orders issued in Basutoland during 12 months to 31st March 1895.

Drawn on	No.	Value.
Cape Colony and Basutoland	1,397	£ s. d. 2,882 14 11
United Kingdom, Foreign, and British	296	1,198 4 4
Colonies.	L cincolina	are Louis tradition
South African Republic	212	368 2 8
Orange Free State	240	559 11 9
Total	2,145	5,008 13 8

Money Orders drawn on Basutoland.

Where drawn.	No.	Value.
Cape Colony	295	£ s. d. 642 19 11
United Kingdom, Foreign and British Colonies.	43	156 18 10
South African Republic	147	382 7 7
Orange Free State	167	239 3 10
Total	652	1,421 10 2

During the same period 19 savings bank accounts have been opened and one closed; 84 deposits, aggregating 700l. 1s. 3d., have been made, 16 withdrawals, amounting to 314l. 12s. 4d., have taken place.

Hospitals.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95.

The reports of the Medical Officers deal fully with the work of this branch.

An epidemic of small-pox of a mild type has been prevalent in the Mohale's Hoek and Mafeteng districts. There were but few deaths. Vaccination has been carried on vigorously by doctors, other Government officers, and missionaries. A fair proportion of the tribe has now been vaccinated. As a precautionary measure no native is granted a pass to leave Basutoland unless he produces a vaccination certificate.

General.

I have pleasure in bringing to your notice the ready assistance rendered by Chiefs to the police in tracing and arresting criminals, and recovering stolen stock. Measures for the eradication of "Burrweed" continue to be carried out.

Brandy smuggling appears to have been carried on to a some-

what less extent than last year.

With the assistance of our police several convictions have been obtained in the Orange Free State Courts against illicit canteen keepers.

The Free State authorities are most cordial in their co-operation with our officers in suppressing this trade, and in other border

matters.

The system of curtailing the time occupied in the collection of hut tax, inaugurated last year, was again successfully pursued, though the Chief Masupha was conspicuous for his delay and inertness.

I have the honour to submit the following reports for the year:—

Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.

Do. Berea.
Do. Maseru.
Do. Mafeteng.

Do. Mohale's Hoek.

Do. Quthing. Officer in charge, Qacha's Nek.

Do. Buthabuthe.

Principal Medical Officer. Medical Officer, Leribe.

Do. Mafeteng.

Do. Mohale's Hoek.

ENRAGHT MOONY, Acting Government Secretary.

LERIBE.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1895.

In my last Annual Report I alluded to the claims of Motsoene Joseph Molapo, based upon his descent from the Chief Letsie and Molapo, and to the possibility of future difficulty in adjusting the relationship between him and the Chief Jonathan Molapo, who has, since the insanity of Joseph became apparent, assumed, with the support of the Government, the Paramount Chief, and the majority of Molapo's people, the Chieftainship of the Leribe District. This is evidently resented by Motsoene who has, however, seldom ventured to openly assert his claims to the Chieftainship of Molapo, but who has repeatedly demanded that he should be allotted a portion of the District within which he might exercise a more independent authority.

Jonathan has naturally resisted this, and Motsoene's own character renders it improbable that he will obtain, by his personal influence or popularity, a larger share of chieftainship

than he at present enjoys.

The relations between Jonathan and Joel appear to have considerably changed of late, in the direction of a more friendly understanding. The Chiefs have met at several political gatherings, have amicably greeted each other, and have exchanged messages as to their affairs. It is to be hoped that this reconciliation may prove to be permanent and for the good of the District.

During the year some of Joel's people living in the Maloti, in the valley of one of the tributaries of the Orange River, have had a dispute with the Chief Ledingoana, as to ploughing rights. The matter has been in the hands of the Paramount Chief, who has defined the rights of Molapo's people in that neighbourhood.

In the month of February the Paramount Chief, in accordance with promises made by the late Chief Letsie, sent his representatives to allot to Jonathan, as the heir of Molapo, certain lands in the mountains to be used as cattle posts by the Leribe people. Jonathan was not satisfied with the extent of country given him; considering that by virtue of previous occupation by Molapo, a piece of ground at present occupied by Bereng Letsie should have been included in the grant. Lérothodi has promised to reconsider the matter, but nothing further has so far been done, and Jonathan complains of the treatment he has received in the matter.

In March the Paramount Chief arrived at Kueneng, intending to place there Mitchel, the son of Peete Ramanella. Acting under instructions, I, together with the Assistant Commissioner, Berea, attended the meeting. Jonathan did not obey the Paramount Chief's summons to the meeting, and in his absence Lerothodi declined to proceed with the installation of Mitchel. Jonathan in thus neglecting the summons of his Chief, was probably actuated by his feeling of resentment at Lerothodi's action in the matter of the mountain land before referred to. He was also

19

COLONIAL REPORTS. -ANNUAL.

doubtless irritated at the presence of the Paramount Chief in the BASUTOLAND. Leribe District, and was further inclined to frustrate the placing of Mitchel which he may consider detrimental to his own interests. Jonathan has, for his conduct in this matter, been rebuked both publicly and privately by the Resident Commissioner and

myself.

In May I was directed with the Assistant Commissioner, Maseru, to meet the representatives of the Paramount Chief at Kueneng and proceed with the installation of Mitchel. On this occasion Jonathan was present and raised no objection to the placing of the young Chief. The adjustment of matters between Mitchel and Seshope, his uncle, was left in the hands of Peete Ramanella, who promised to deal liberally with his brother Seshope. Seshope has always strenuously opposed the placing of Mitchel as an infringement of what he considers to be his rights.

In May I attended with Mr. Boxwell a meeting in Matela's ward to discuss the quarrels between the sons of the late Chief Matela. Jonathan, whose right and duty it is to deal with Matela's people, left the settlement of various questions for the present in the hands of Letsika Matela, who was instructed to try

and provide for his brothers.

It is satisfactory to report that, notwithstanding the existence of several matters of disagreement between the Chiefs, all these questions have so far been dealt with reasonably and peaceably. It is too much to hope that these questions have been finally dealt with, but the moderation and self-control so far exercised by the principal Chiefs encourages the belief that they will continue to bring these disputes to the proper courts for adjustment in a legitimate manner.

It has been reported that guns have on two occasions been

taken in hand, but have not been used.

The Revenue for the 12 months ending 30th June 1895 is as follows:-

	Ame	ount							
			STA I	Fari	yotan	la estad	£	s.	d.
Hut tax -	-		-	-	•	-	5,237	19	0
Licences -	4			-		-	373	5	0
Fines -		-	-	•	14 - 67-		78	10	6
Ferry tolls	-	-	•				10	16	0
Fees -			-	mes	nut-la	ida (+	2	11	0
Miscellaneous						-	197	14	0
Total				-		121-1	£5,900	15	6

Arrear tax amounted to 1781. Hut tax was paid upon 12,802 huts.

Basutoland. 1894-95.

The licences issued	during	the y	ear are:			
General traders					17/11-	36
Hawkers -			delegal, ter		11 m 4 i	21
Do free				701		2

All crops have been abundant, the season having been a favourable one. The natives perhaps, have cultivated more wheat and Kaffir corn in proportion than mealie.

It is to be feared that the quantity of Kaffir corn raised, as it is not very marketable, will lead to excessive beer drinking and brawling.

The current prices of produce are :-

				£ s.
Wheat -	ALC: U		-	0 lu per bag.
Mealies -	-	40	-	0 6 ,,
Kaffir corn	-	-	-	0 4 ,,
Forage - Cattle -				0 15 per 100 bundles.
Cattle -	-			3 10 each.
Sheep -	-	Prop.	-	0 12 ,,

The following is a return of patrols performed:-

No. of Patrols.	Number of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Number of A	rrests.
227	450	7,374	Liquor Laws Pass do Other offences	- 8 - 104 - 7

The Free State authorities have co-operated willingly with me in all border matters. There is a certain amount of liquor illicitly sold on the Free State Border, but the necessary action has been taken when I have brought any case to the notice of the officials of the State. An inconsiderable amount of brandy is no doubt smuggled into the District in spite of the vigilance of the Basutoland Police and Free State Police.

The cases adjudicated upon in my court (inclusive of the cases tried at Buthabuthe) during the year are:—

Q! !!				_
Civil cases	-	-	-	8
Theft	-	-	-	32
Contravention of Pass law				104
" " Liquor "	-	-	-	12
Assault	-	-	-	9
Culpable homicide -	- 14		-	3
Drunk and creating disturbance		-	-	3
Murder		-	-	1
Contravention customs regulation	ns	-	-	1
Escaping from lawful custody	-	•	-	2
Illegal seizure			-	1
Threatening and annoying	•	•	-	1
Minor cases -	-	•	-	33

The following is a summary of reports of lost stock with results BASUTOLAND, of action taken thereon:—

1894-95.

De- scription.	Reported lost or stolen.	Traced into Basutoland.		Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	40	17	23	17	23	Children Tolking
Cattle -	46	14	32	14	32	
Sheep -	20	20	-	19	_	1 killed by thief.
Goats -	18	18	-	606 <u>-</u>	18	120 miles patrolled in search of goats without success.

Passes have been issued to natives leaving the District as follows:—

Passes for men seeking work - - 8,003
Passes for men travelling for other purposes - 13,065

Total - - - 21,068

All natives leaving the country are provided with vaccination certificates.

The epidemic of small-pox referred to in my last report was, by a system of quarantine, confined to a few villages, and did not spread. Before the affected villages were released from quarantine the huts and clothing were burned, and proper steps to secure disinfection were taken under supervision of the medical officer.

A system of repairing the main post road by contract instead of by Government road-parties has been on trial for the past few months. It is premature to report as to the results of this experiment.

An agricultural show, assisted by a Government grant and supported by the European traders of the district, was held in May. With the exception of horses the number of exhibits was small. It is to be expected that, in the future, when the object of such a show is better understood by the Basuto, more interest may be exhibited in what cannot fail to be a most useful undertaking.

I enclose a report* on the schools in the District, which have this year been examined in the new standards of the Cape Education Department. I attach also the report on Buthabuthe sub-district.

H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

BEREA.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1895.

With a few exceptions the district has been quiet since my annual report last year.

As previously stated, a dispute was outstanding in connection with the line between Peete and Lebese on 30th June 1894.

The District Chiefs being unable to arrange it, I was desired to

enquire into the matter by the Resident Commissioner.

I found, however, that the evidence on both sides was so hopelessly biassed that there was no chance of arriving at the truth. Mr. Sloley, who had originally made the line, was then requested to point it out again, and the question was finally settled by beaconing off the line.

A similar question at Mathlatsa has been settled by Peete and

Mamathe themselves, they being the disputing parties.

At the beginning of September, while the Maama-Lerothodi dispute was at its height this District was much disturbed, most of the men being called to Thaba Bosigo under arms by Masupha to watch events. On the collapse of Maama, Masupha sent them all to their homes, and everything settled down quietly.

Throughout the affair Masupha's principal sons were averse to

his joining in it.

Early in December an old woman named Mautsopha, who lives in the Orange Free State near Ladybrand, and who is a prophetess of great repute among the Basuto, was called by Masupha to a meeting of important Chiefs at Mamathe's village in the district. While there she prophesied to the effect that before new year Basutoland would be attacked by the Free State farmers, and she advised all Basuto to be ready for war. This prophecy, with other less important ones, naturally upset the people very much, and the uneasiness took a long time to subside.

Mautsopha, however, has saved her reputation by "doctoring"

the people to prevent the coming invasion.

In May, Masupha, who begins to find old age bearing heavily on him, introduced two of his grandsons to the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief, and formally declared them his heirs in the following order:—

1st. Masuphanyane, son of Lepoqo.

2nd. Koadi, son of Mosuioa.

3rd. Marthinus-Masupha's eldest surviving son.

Masuphanyane and Koadi are boys of 13 and 14 years old.

Peete has reported to me lately that Jonathan Molapo is claiming a large wedge of country from him, near the source of the Phutiatsana River. This appears to be one of those cases which arise from the difficulty of deciding which of two small streams near the source of a river is the actual river and which is the tributary

The strength of the police at this station is at present, 1 Euro- BASUTOLAND. pean constable, 2 Native corporals, 1 Native lance corporal, 23 Native privates; all mounted, equipped, and efficient.

The Sub-Inspector of Police in charge of this Detachment has

been temporarily removed to another district for duty.

There has been a good deal of stealing in Berea during the past year, the thieves being chiefly a gang living under the protection of the petty Chief Moiketsi. He, however, has not been legally proved to be an accomplice.

The following are the patrols by this detachment during the

Jean.					
Number of patrols	-			mile:	90
Number of men			40.6	you	213
Number of miles	•	-		-	4,573
Arrests were as unde	er :—				
Contravening Liqu	or Reg	ulations			5
Contravening Pass	Regula	ations		-0	4
Other offences	-	-	-		8
					17

Very little stock has been reported as lost from the Free State or elsewhere. The saddle referred to last year has been recovered and the thief punished.

A return follows showing results in recovery of stock reported

here :-

Stock.	Reported.	Not traced.	Traced.	Re- covered.	Not recovered	Remarks.
Horses -	10	6	4	2	2	These horses were apparently sent to Johannesburg directly
Cattle -	23	13	10	9	1	they arrived in Basutoland; thief punished. Thief punished. This beast was killed before his arrest.

The following cases were heard in the Assistant Commissioner's court during the year :-

TO C.					
Theft -	-	•	-	-	12
Contravening	Liquor La	ws -	A War		5
Contravening	Pass Laws			774	6
Assault	die bium t		TOTAL TOTAL		1
Other offence	s	-			8
				Leoto	
					32
Civil cases	THE RESERVE	-1 200-0	3.41 (35)		2
					-

The health of the District has been very good There were one or two cases of small-pox, but the natives themselves isolated them so promptly that the disease did not spread. Government employes (other than medical officers) vaccinated 2,674 natives at this office during the year.

Hut tax has been disappointing. Leshuburu and Peete have paid well and are some 78l. in excess of last year, while the whole tax of the District has risen 7l., but, on the other hand, Masupha and his sons have made no efforts to get in their tax, and consequently are about 70l. behind last year. Masupha has always been known for his dilatoriness in hut-tax matters, but it was hoped that a letter addressed to him by the High Commissioner and his own promises at the National Pitso would effect a change for the better this year.

Whether from old age or carelessness, however, he has made even less effort than usual this year to get in the tax, and the result is

the deficit mentioned above.

The following is the revenue for the district for the past year:—

He	Amount.				
Hut tax				-	£ s. d. 2,756 0 0
Licences	-	-	•	-	979 10 6
Fees of court or office	nonde:		•		1 2 6
Special receipts -			-	-	80 7 3
	Total	-	-		3,117 0 3

Arrear hut tax collected amounted to 204l. 10s.

Hut tax was paid on 5,238 huts.

An agricultural show was held at Teyateyaneng on the 8th June with a view of showing the natives that there was great room for improvement in their stock and produce. The prizes were subscribed by the white residents of the District, and Government gave a grant-in-aid. The prizes were open to natives of Basutoland only, and there were large entries for nearly every class of exhibit.

The crops are good this year, and the Kaffir corn especially so, indeed it is to be feared that the beer drinking, which has already commenced throughout the country, will be the cause of much crime and quarrelling.

The approximate prices of grain per muid are :-

Wheat, 8s. to 9s. Mealies, 5s. to 6s. Kaffir corn, 6s. to 7s.

Stock of all kinds is scarce.

The following are the passes issued at this office during the year:—

Passes for labour - - - 4,417
Passes for other purposes - - - 4,103

Total - - 8,520

During the past year the main post road has been in charge of a contractor and inspected by Government. The experiment may be said to have succeeded fairly, but the season has been such a phenomenally wet one that it would be unfair to judge too harshly. Dry weather has now set in and the roads have all been made fit for the traffic they are called on to carry.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95.

During the year there have been issued at this office:—

9 paid hawkers' licences 2 free hawkers' licences.

There are 24 trading stations in the District.

During the year I have received every help from the Free State border officials.

L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

MASERU.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1895.

In August last a disturbance arose between the Paramount Chief and his younger brother Maama, which was fraught with danger and very nearly culminated in disaster. The Paramount Chief had sent messages to execute a judgment which he had passed on certain malefactors, and the messengers were driven off by Maama's people, and in the scuffle one of them was killed. The Paramount Chief, naturally much incensed at the death of his messenger and at the contempt of his authority, called certain of his brothers, and was proceeding with a large following to crush Maama once for all, and had he been allowed to proceed there was, I think, no doubt but that he would have accomplished his object, but he would also have created a disturbance of such magnitude as might very well have led to general disaster. He was, however, stopped by the Resident Commissioner, who held a Pitso at Mofokas, and imposed a heavy cattle fine upon Maama and his people, and ordered Lerothodi to step in and occupy a tract of country which was still in dispute between him and Maama.

This disturbance may be said to have constituted a crisis in the affairs of the District. Maama lost greatly in prestige and territory, and many of his people, tired of the repeated cattle fines and call to arms to which he has from time to time subjected them, gladly left him to join Lerothodi. Since then the district has been in a state of profound peace. Disputes, of course, arise from time to time, but they are invariably brought to the courts and adjusted.

Commercial.

Trade has been bad this year. There is, however, plenty of food. The prices paid for produce are still very low.

Public Works.

The roads are now in good repair.

Police.

The police force attached to my office consists nominally of:-

Sub-inspectors -	TOTE - SAT	- 14 m	i da	- 2
European constables	-	-	Mai-Nu	- 2
Native sergeants -	COST - FR	-	-	- 1
Native corporals -	-	-		- 3
Native privates -		-		- 49

Number of Patrols.	Number of Men employed.	Number of Miles patrolled.	Arrests. (a.) Contravening Liquor Regulations. (b.) Contravening Pass Regulations. (c.) Other Offences
78	194	3,074	a. 4 b. 5 c. 3

The following table shows result of action taken in the matter of tracing lost stock. In every case where stock has been traced to Basutoland it has been recovered and in some instances before report.

Description.		No. reported.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced.	Re- covered.	Not re- covered.	Remarks.
Horses -		23	9	14	9	14	2 recovered in Orange Free State.
Cattle -	-	31	10	21	10	21	3 recovered in Orange Free State.

Serious crime continues to be rare. The following cases were tried in my court:—

Contravening Liquor	Regulat	ions	-	4
Contravening Pass Re	gulation	ıs -	3 2 2 2	5
Contravening Customs	Regula	ations	1	1
Contravening Reserve	Regula	ations	10-1	1
Theft	-		-	11
Fraud	in leading		*	1
Concealment of birth	7	aint - can	-	1
Homicide -		20 to 3		1
Assault	mi - de		-	2
Resisting police -	170 - 92		-	1

There were four civil actions, two of them actions for divorce.

Revenue.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95.

The following statement shows the amount of revenue collected by me. The hut tax shows an increase of some 80l. on last year.

	Hea	ds of H	levenue.				Amou	int.	
		A dest	niida e				£ 3,756	s. 0	d. 0
Hut tax -	I o be	R SE		delio	COLUMN TO		234		0
Licences -									
Fines -	per bar	1	Taling W	e Lia	116		34	5	6
Ferry tolls -	Y. C.	32.11	CONT			-	271	8	6
Fees of court	- Allen	Ties.	1.11					19	3
Miscellaneous	140-00-	9.00	N. H. T.	4.	100	-	181	10	5
Total					-	15.0	£4,486	3	8

2941. of arrear hut tax was collected. Tax was paid on 6,924 luts.

Passes.

Passes were issued to 6,217 persons, 3,318 of these were going in search of work.

Licences.

There are 20 licensed trading stations in the district. 34 paid hawkers' licences were taken out and 22 free hawkers' licences.

Intercourse with the Orange Free State Officials continues to be of a friendly nature.

J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office, Maseru, June 30, 1895.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report for Year ended 30th June 1895.

June 30, 1895.

1. I would refer to the principal incidents of political importance which affected this District during the past year.

2. Chief Letsie, eldest son of the Paramount Chief, had been placed at his father's old village as mentioned in my report

1892-93, and soon afterwards he began to ignore his proper

councillors and abuse his position.

For two years I endeavoured to exercise a good influence over him by various methods, but ultimately his behaviour became so unbearable towards Government officers and the general public that I found it necessary to report his conduct to the Acting Resident Commissioner. On receipt of my report the Acting Resident Commissioner suspended Chief Letsie, from his position as Native Officer of Police, pending inquiry into the case. Subsequently the Acting Resident Commissioner held an inquiry at Mafeteng, and the Paramount Chief, Letsie, and other Chiefs and councillors were present. Chief Letsie acknowledged the justice of the charges I had brought against him, comparing himself to the Prodigal Son, which parable he recited, then apologising to the Government Officers, Chiefs and people present, he promised to amend his conduct.

The Acting Resident Commissioner severely reprimanded Letsie, and fined him three months' pay for general misconduct, and also ordered him to pay a cattle fine for treating a native prisoner with undue severity. I have not since had special occasion to complain of Letsie, though, I regret to say, his general

character is unsatisfactory.

3. The gradual encroachment by natives on the land regarded as commonage for this station made it necessary for me to bring the matter to the notice of the Government. Year after year new ground was ploughed and pasturage destroyed by natives living at this Magistracy and outside, there being no recognised limit to the reserve. Many difficulties presented themselves in dealing with this matter, and it was not until July 1894 that the Acting Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief came to view the ground and definitely fix the Government reserve, securing within its limits the lands and pasturage appertaining to the village of Mafeteng. Beacons are erected and there is now no difficulty in protecting the village commonage.

4. Last year the Paramount Chief gave the people of Kolo Ward, formerly directly under Matsieng, into the caretaking of Chief Bereng Letsie, an arrangement which has caused some local

dissatisfaction.

5. A wire fence has been erected during the last few years as a western boundary between Basutoland and the Orange Free State, the cost being shared by Basutoland Government and the Free State farmers immediately on that part of the border. The proprietor of the farm Flodden had delayed in putting up his fence, and as the veldt was open between the beacons Basuto cattle and herds occasionally trespassed on to his farm. No complaint was ever brought to this office, the farmer always obtaining trespass fees from the Basuto before releasing their cattle. However, in February 1895, the son of the proprietor saw three Basuto children, herd boys, gathering wild berries on his ground, and he fetched a gun from the farmbouse, and fired a shot with ball cartridge in their direction. The boys

fled and reported the matter to their parents, and the circumstance caused a good deal of indignation and unrest at the time. When the case came to my knowledge I communicated with the Landdrost of Wepener, and subsequently met that gentleman and some local Basuto Chiefs on the border near the farm Flodden, and we reviewed the ground. The Landdrost directed the farmer, Mr. Strohmenger, to build his section of the fence without delay, and he promised to do so. We afterwards rode along the completed fence as far as it extends along Mafeteng District, and mutually agreed concerning certain repairs and improvements as a safeguard against smuggling from the Orange Free State.

6. Brandy smuggling from the Orange Free State continues to be kept down by the action of the officials of the Orange Free

State, and constant patrolling of Basutoland police.

Several Boers who sell brandy on their farms to Basutoland natives have been convicted in the Landdrosts' Court, Wepener, but as these people make handsome profits they still carry on the trade by stealth, and will probably continue to do so as long as they can find customers to purchase the adulterated and poisonous spirits they retail.

7. I attach a return of patrols performed by the detachment of police at this station. The estimated distance travelled is less than that of last year, owing to the men having been employed on

frequent forelay duty -

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled by collective Patrols.	Arrests. (a.) Contravening Liquor Regulations. (b.) Do. Pass do. (c.) Other Offences.
91	449	4,575	a. 29 b. 10 c. 10

6. During the year the district Chiefs have rendered all necessary aid to the police in tracing stray and stolen property, and in arresting persons accused of crimes. I append a return of lost and stolen stock:—

Description	on.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -		7	5	2	5	2	
Cattle -		3	2	1	2	1	
Sheep -		14		14		14	

Stock stolen from the Orange Free State, and traced into this District was again, as last year, all recovered and returned to the owners, and the thieves punished. None was traced from the Cape Colony.

1894-95.

9. The civil and criminal cases adjudicated upon in Assistant Commissioner's Court were :---

Civil suits	X. The		- 5
Homicide	11.73		- 1
Theft	0.00		- 10
Fraud	174		- 2
Resisting and assaulting police	-	-	- 2
Contravening Liquor Regulations			- 30
" Pass "		1 20 30	- 10
" Customs "	E COP	14C 2 4CH	- 1
Cases dismissed	-	-	- 3

10. The Mafeteng detachment of police continues to perform excellent services and the men are daily employed on various duties throughout the District. The men are efficient, well mounted and equipped, and the present strength is:

> 1 sub-inspector. 2 European constables. 1 native constable. 1 officer. 1 sergeant. 1 corporal. ., 31 privates.

11. Encouraged by the success of an agricultural show in 1894 another was held in Mafeteng last May. Government gave a grant towards the funds at the disposal of the committee, so a substantial sum of money was awarded for prizes in the different classes of exhibits. The show was well supported by the public and some excellent samples of Basutoland produce and stock were shown, together with articles of native manufacture.

The rains were seasonable and an abundant harvest has been

reaped, and the food supply for the ensuing year is assured.

The rainfall for the 12 months ended 30th June 1895 at Mafeteng was 35 3 inches.

The following were the ruling prices for produce and stock:

Wheat, 8s. 6d. per bag of 200 lbs. Mealies, 5s. per bag of 200 lbs. Oats, 6s. per bag of 150 lbs. Barley, 5s. per bag of 150lbs. Kaffir corn, 10s. per bag of 200 lbs. Oat hay, 15s. per bag 100 bundles. Wool, $3\frac{1}{4}d$. per lb. Mohair, 9d. per lb. Basuto tobacco, 6d. per lb. Hides, 3d, per lb. Horned cattle (slaughter) 3l. to 6l. Sheep, 8s. Goats, 5s. Basuto ponies, 2l. to 10l.

There was an improvement in the commerce of the District BASUTOLAND.

1894-95.

I attach a return of the number of licences granted:—

General traders - - - - - - 20
Hawkers' licences (paid) - - - - 12
Hawkers' licences (free) - - - 32

12. The Medical Officer has furnished a report on the health of the District. A mild form of small-pox has been rife during the past year, and at my request the Chiefs gave ready assistance in enforcing quarantine regulations under the direction of the medical officer.

Vaccination was freely carried out in the District, and passes to leave the territory were only granted to natives who had provided themselves with vaccination certificates.

13. The waggon roads have been maintained in fair order, and Government buildings requiring repair have received attention.

The village fountain being inadequate to the requirements of the community, and having become contaminated from various causes, a scheme for supplying the village with pure water from an adjacent spring was laid before Government, and the acting Resident Commissioner, after due consideration, approved of the suggestion and authorised a water-service for Mafeteng. The work was, successfully carried out by a qualified engineer. The water has been conveyed from the base of Likodi mountain into the village of Mafeteng by means of iron piping $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles in length.

There are three taps in convenient positions for public use, leadings have been carried to all Government quarters and also to most European dwellings at the owners' private cost. This pure water supply is necessary for health purposes, and its advantages are already felt and more beneficial results are anticipated, facilitating, as it will, the irrigation of gardens and production of

vegetables.

- 14. I have inspected and furnished a separate report on twenty-six (26) Government-aided schools, and I am pleased to state that educational work in the District is making fair progress.
- 16. Natives have gone freely into adjacent territories in search of work and for other purposes. The number of persons who obtained passes at this office were:—

Seeking employment - - - - 4,345 Other purposes - - - - 9,226

16. Hut tax was exceptionally well paid, and is 74l. in excess of the amount gathered during the previous year. This is due to a slight increase of persons liable, and to a careful supervision and check of hut tax receipts from house to house.

Miscellaneous receipts were considerably increased owing to

hospital fees being paid under this head.

The revenue collected amounts to:-

н	Heads of Revenue.					Amount.		
				Resid		£		d.
Hut tax			•		-	3,670	10	0
Licences	•	-	•	•	-	212	0	0
Fines	a •	•			-	75	0	0
Fees of court or office		ar jur	-		-	5	12	6
Miscellaneous -				-	-	207	9	6
Total				1	-	£4,170	12	0

No. of huts on which tax was paid - - 7,163

Arrear hut tax collected - - £163

T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

MOHALE'S HOEK.

Annual Report for the Year ended June 30, 1895.

General.

Nothing of any material importance has occurred during the past twelve months. The political aspect is unchanged. In August last I was informed by Malebanye, the head of the Bamohale, that he had been summoned by the Paramount Chief to bring armed assistance against Maama.

Malebanye went as far as Mafeteng. From there he returned

by permission of the Paramount Chief.

In October, Chabedi, a petty Chief of the Bataung, died and was

succeeded by his son Thurlo.

In December small-pox broke out in this district. Immediate steps were taken for a general vaccination and for quarantine. I went personally into the Maloti and ordered isolation of all villages infected with the disease.

Five villages were found by me to be infected. The medical officer and experienced police visited the district for vaccination purposes, and a thorough system of vaccination was kept up at the dispensary. No passes were issued to persons who failed to produce a vaccination certificate.

In March the petty Chief Makuethlane died and was succeeded

by his eldest son Pitso,

In May Lesala and eight others were arrested for illicit introduction into Basutoland of guns, pistols, and ammunition. The guns were purchased by Lesala in the Free State, and were paid

33

65

for in Basutoland, with cattle stolen by him from Ntabanyane BASUTOLAND. 1894-95. Makhube.

The case was heard before a combined court at this station on May 14; the prisoners were convicted and are now undergoing sentence. The Dutchmen who sold the guns have been committed for trial in the Free State.

Relations between the district and neighbouring States are most satisfactory.

Border fencing is being carried on. The fence is a great assist-

ance in the checking of theft and other border troubles.

Liquor smuggling, though not so frequent as fermerly, is still a source of crouble, more so in the northern than in the southern portion of the District.

The following is a return of lost and stolen stock:—

De- scription.	No. reported.	Traced into Basutoland.		Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	8	1	7	1	7	Harman Art of the Co
Cattle -	11	12000	11	St. Callen	10	1 recovered in Free
Sheep -	108	-	108	-	108	State.

The following is a return of patrols:—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Approximate Distance travelled.	No. of Arrests.		
Nugeral Control			Liquer Regulations		
62	129	3,058	Pass laws Other offences -	-	2

The population is decidedly on the increase, and at present there appears to be no sufficient outlet for the surplus. This fact, while presenting no immediate cause for concern, will, I fear, be a source of trouble in the near future.

The following is a return of all passes issued during the year:--

an mane	For Labour.	For other Purposes.	Total Number issued.
	3,074	1,806	4,880

This year's harvest has been, generally, quite up to the average, cereals of all description grown in Basutoland being plentiful. The mealie crop has been an exceptionally abundant one.

All schools in the District have been inspected. I cannot say

that I have noticed much progress.

An average amount of trade has been done. Owing, however to the heavy import duty on breadstuffs and stock in the Transvaal, prices of all Basutoland exports are much lower than they otherwise would be.

The following is a return o	I meer	1069 19906	ш.—		
General traders	-		-1		15
Hawkers' licences (free)	•	-	-	100	8
Dam licences -	-	a di-fiett	Tales	-	2

The fall - in a naturn of licenses igened .

The criminal cases heard in the court of this District during the year are as follows:—

Theft		-	-	-	4
Forgery -		10.		-	1
Assault with intent			-	-	3
Contravening Pass Laws	-		-		1
Contravening regulations	regar	ding firear	rms	-	1
Police offences -	-		-	-	2

The number of cases is somewhat in excess of last year's return; but they are for the most part of a trifling nature.

There have been only three civil cases heard during the year.

The Medical Officer's report is forwarded separately.

The following is a return of all Revenue received:--

I	Amount.				
Hut tax			£ 3,242	s. 10	
Licences	ous pagerous as en visa		147	9	0
Ferry toils	The parties and ellipsis	- 1	64	4	3
Fees		- 3	5	0	0
Miscellaneous receipt	s	-	159	7	0
Total -		-	3,618	10	3

Hut tax has been paid on 6,335 huts, and arrear tax amounted to 981.

J. W. Bowker, Assistant Commissioner.

QUTHING.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95.

Annual Report for the Year ending June 30, 1895.

General.

1. Although disputes have been frequent, there has been no disturbance of the peace in this District during the year.

The friction between the sons of Letsie and other inhabitants of the country still goes on, and unless some other location can be found for the latter, it is difficult to see where it will stop. The decisions given at the public meeting held here in June 1894 by the Acting Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief have to a large extent been evaded by the Chief Nkwebe Letsie. These evasions have been reported on, from time to time, in letters to head-quarters.

The above-named Chief, although apparently well disposed towards Government, has on several occasions shown a spirit of opposition to control, which is to be regretted in view of the example thereby set to the minor Chiefs.

2. Steps have been taken in the course of the year to ascertain how the police duties were performed, and the result was not creditable to certain persons then in the force.

Liquor smuggling had apparently been connived at to some extent, and, as a result of the enquiry, convictions were obtained against two illicit canteens in the neighbouring district of Herschel, Cape Colony.

3. It is currently reported by responsible persons, such as missionaries and traders, that several natives have been tortured and otherwise punished for alleged witchcraft by the Chiefs in the District during the period under review. No complaints of such treatment have been brought to officials by the sufferers, probably owing to their dread of the Chief's vengeance.

Agriculture.

The wheat crop was a light one in comparison with the acreage sown, but the Kaffir corn and maize crops are better than the average. Generally speaking, the live stock in the country is healthy, but in certain parts shows deterioration owing to overstocking and restricted pasturage.

Horses, especially, are not so good as formerly, partly from the above causes and partly from careless breeding. One of the Arab stallions imported by the Government is now stationed in Quthing, and it is hoped that in time goods results will be shown. Tree-planting is increasing among the people, although their ideas on this subject are chiefly confined to poplars (for building poles) and a few sorts of fruit trees. The country is now too crowded to allow of the population shifting from place to place as formerly, and one result of this should be to lead them to plant

trees freely and to build more permanent dwellings than they have hitherto done.

Something has been done towards the destruction of burrweed both by the Government and the people, and if this is persevered in for some years the weed may be extirpated. There is still far too much in the country.

Relations with Bordering States.

Friendly relations continue with the bordering Districts of the Cape Colony and East Griqualand, and mutual facilities are afforded for the tracing of criminals.

Public Works.

Waterworks for supply of water to the police camp and various public officers are about to be constructed.

Medical officers' quarters are nearly completed, and other

building work is in progress.

The main roads on the whole do not compare unfavourably with those in adjacent Districts, but the branch road to Ongeluks Nek is now impassable for vehicles.

Medical.

Medical officer's report is forwarded separately.*

Revenue.

The following is a return of revenue collected —

He	Amo	Amount.						
						£	8.	
Hut tax	•		-			2,186	12	6
Licences		11-	•	-	-	156	0	0
Fines	•	-	-		-	62	6	6
Ferry tolls	- (-1		-	175	13	0
Fees of court or office		objects	100.00			2	7	6
Miscellaneous -					-	77	14	0
Total -						2,660	13	6

The total number of huts on which tax was paid this year is 4,210; arrear hut tax amounting to 981. was collected.

Licences.

Number of licences	issued	:			
General traders	1	-			15
Hawkers' paid	-	-	-	-	6
Hawkers' free	•		-		3

^{*} Not printed.

Lost Stock Returns.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95.

Stock.		Reported.		Traced. Not traced.		Recovered.	Not recovered	Remarks.
Horses	-		2	1	1,	1	1	8 cattle have been re-
Cattle			15	7	8	7	8	ported by Colonial officials as having been recovered in the
Sheep			58	_	58	-	58	Colony.

Civil and Criminal Cases.

Civil and criminal cases tried during the year are as follows:-

Civil cases	-	-	4
Assault			4
Concealment of birth		-	1
Contempt of court	-	-	1
Theft	-	-	7
Rape		-	2
Contravening Customs Regulations	•	-	1
Contravening Trading Regulations	-	_	8
Contravening Pass Regulations -	-	-	30
Contravening sec. 31, Pound Ordinance		-	3
Professing to a knowledge of witchcraft	-	-	2
Resisting police	-	_	6
Escape from custody		-	1
Breach of prison discipline -		26	1
Breach of the peace		-	2
그렇게 하는 것이 아니는 아이를 하는데 하는데 그렇게 되었다.			

Current prices of produce and stock:

Mealies, 4s. to 6s. per muid.
Wheat, 10s. per muid.
Kaffir corn, 8s. to 10s. per muid.
Horses, 3l. to 8l. each.
Cattle, 3l. to 5l. each.
Sheep, 10s. to 15s. each.
Goats, 6s. to 8s. each.
Wool, 3d. per lb.
Mohair, 6d. per lb.

Passes.

The following is a	return	of	passes issued	during	the	year:
Seeking work ·	a la mil				-	1.679
Other purposes		-	ne ka semile	•	-	4,139

Patrols.

The following is a return of patrols:-

Number of patrols -	-	-	102
Number of men engaged	-		149
Number of miles patrolled		-	3,839

Basutoland, 1894-95. Arrests as under :-

Contravening Liquor Regulation	ns		-	7
Contravening Pass Regulations	-	48.74	•	22
Other offences	-			10

S. BARRETT, Assistant Commissioner.

QACHA'S NER.

Annual Report for the Year ending 30th June 1895.

General.

The boundary dispute between the Chiefs Mpiti and Sekake, mentioned by me in my last Annual Report, was settled on the 31st July last by Setha Matete, who was sent by the Paramount Chief to enquire into the matter, and the boundary was then clearly defined, so I do not anticipate any further trouble between these Chiefs on that subject.

I am pleased to report that no disputes as to rights of land, &c. have occurred among Chiefs in the District during the past year, and all the Chiefs appear to bear friendly relations to one another.

I have always received ready assistance from all Chiefs and Headmen in all matters on which I have had occasion to requisition their services.

My relations with the Government Officers of the neighbouring Districts of the Cape Colony continue to be of a friendly nature, and I have received every assistance in tracing of criminals and the recovery of lost or stolen stock.

Efforts have been made, with the assistance of the Paramount Chief, to check the influx of foreign natives into the District, and several of the Chiefs and Headmen have been punished for allowing such persons to settle in their wards without first obtaining the permission of Government.

The introduction of the Glen Grey Act among the natives of East Griqualand, of which I hear there is a possibility, may have the effect of the Basutoland Government receiving many applications from Natives of that territory for permission to remove into Basutoland.

Commercial,

No new trading stations have been opened during the past year. The existing stations appear to be doing a lucrative trade. The average prices paid by traders for produce and live stock during BASUTOLAND. the year are as follows:—

1894-95.

Wheat, 5s. to 8s. per bag. Mealies, 3s. to 10s. per bag. Kaffir corn, 6s. to 10s. per bag. Wool, $2\frac{1}{2}d$. to 3d. per lb. Mohair, 4d. to 6d. per lb. Hides, 2d. per lt. Horses, 60s. to 7l. Cattle, 20s. to 100s. Sheep, 8s. to 10s. Goats, 5s. to 6s.

Public Works.

The road from Matatiele to this station is now in fair repair, the old portion of it, mentioned in my last Annual Report as requiring to be repaired, has been put in order by the Resident Magistrate of Matatiele, who employed convict labour.

Application has been made, and permission granted by the Government to Mr. James Cole, to construct a road to his

trading station at Mpiti's.

Police.

The police have been doing satisfactory work, and discipline has been well maintained among the members of the detachment here. They have been hard worked in endeavouring to keep patrols out along the border, which is very extensive, and the detachment would require to be considerably strengthened to keep a continual watch on the numerous paths which enter the district.

No. of Patrels.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.				
51	79	5,675	For contravention of Liquor Laws 1 Do. Pass Laws 8 Other offences 5				

Crime.

The following criminal cases have been tried during the year ended 30th June 1895:—

Culpable homicide	_			2
Theft	-		-	1
Contravening Liquor Law.	3 -	PAR MILITA		1
,, Pass Laws			-	9
Breach of prison discipline	-		-	4
Attempting to administer p	oison with	intent		1
Assault	-		-	1

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95. On account of the stringent measures lately introduced by the Cape Government to check the sale of liquor to natives, very little, if any, liquor smuggling is carried on along the border of this district.

Return of lost and stolen stock :-

Description.		No. reported lost.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not re- covered.			
Cattle		5	5	-	5				
Horses		12	1	11	-	11	Traced to Mafeteng District. 1 horse found dead on owner's farm.		
Sheep		63	<u>-</u>	63		63	32 sheep recovered by owner on adjoining farms.		
Goats		2	-	2		2	2 goats recovered by owner on adjoining farm.		

Revenue.

The amount of revenue collected compares favourably with last year's collection. The amount of arrear hut tax collected this year is 103l. less than that collected last year, so that this shows an increase of current tax collected amounting to 101l. 17s. 6d., which I attribute to the increase of population by immigration from other districts of Basutoland, and from the Cape Colony and Natal.

The following is a return of revenue collected during the year ended 30th June 1895:—

Heads of Revenue.								Amount.			
Hut tax								£ 1,055			
Licences		1-34			•		-	22	0	0	
Fines						•	-	4	10	0	
Fees			•		FW3		-	0	2	.6	
Miscellane	eous re	eceipts		usi i	40-19		-	15	5	6	
Tot	tal		-100					1,097	16	0	

Amount of arrear hut tax collected, 73l. 10s. Number of huts on which tax has been paid 2,005. Number of licences issued is as llows:—

General traders' - - - 2
Paid hawkers' - - - 2

41

The following is a return of passes issued during the year ended 30th June 1895, and shows an increase over last year of 794:—

BASUTOLAND.
1894-95.

Number of persons to whom passes were issued for work - - - 548

Do. Do. for other purposes - 2,257

2,805

Medical.

No case of small-pox or other epidemic disease has occurred in the District during the past year, and I have had no occasion to call on the services of a medical man.

Six hundred and eleven persons have been vaccinated and provided with certificates.

JNO. T. GRIFFITH, Officer in Charge.

BUTHA BUTHE.

Annual Report for the Year ended June 30, 1895.

Though no serious fighting has taken place in this ward during the past year, yet there has been considerable friction between the Chiefs and headmen and much anxiety caused thereby.

In July 1894 Joel and his brother Hlasoa had a dispute as to the latter's rights, and at one time it was feared that this would lead to serious trouble. Nothing much came of it, however, but I do not consider this matter to be by any means finally settled.

In October the differences between the sons of Matela began, and I regret to have to report that up to now matters are still unsettled. The trouble was chiefly with Mohape, Likopa, and Hlakametsa. Various small fights took place, and at last on the 8th May, Chief Jonathan came up to settle matters, accompanied by the Assistant Commissioner of the District, and messengers from the Paramount Chief, to watch proceedings and advise. On the 9th and 10th a Pitsoe was held near Lepera's village and a judgment was given by Chief Jonathan. It remains to be seen how far this judgment will bring peace and quietness.

I am glad to be able to report that the amount of hut tax paid since 1st July 1894 is greater than that of any preceding year.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95. The total revenue is also greater. I subjoin a return of revenue under heads:—

a de la companya de		Amo	unt.						
Hut tax -		La Label	d nd				£ 1,533		d.
Licences -							1,355	0	0
Fines -		-			-	-	4	17	6
Fees -			-	\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.			0	16	0
Miscellaneous	Sar J	ned B	o de la companya della companya della companya de la companya della companya dell		19-11	-	53	19	6
Total	40.4		0.0.101		450	ada P	1,719	13	0

The number of general traders' licences is the same as for last year. There has been a slight increase in the number of hawkers' licences taken out. I subjoin a return:—

General traders' licences	-			-	11
Paid hawkers' licences	-	-	-	-1	15
Free hawkers' licences		-	-		2

I regret to have to report that two cases of manslaughter have occurred in this ward during the year. In one case the culprit has been tried and punished; in the other two men have been arrested on suspicion.

I subjoin a return of criminal and civil cases heard in this court during the year:—

Manslaughter	-	•	-	-	-	1
Stock theft					-	5
Liquor running	-					1
Minor cases		Company of the compan			-	31
Total	-	lle v ulto	d sub-	Lipies		38
Civil cases				-	41 ·	8

All the lost or stolen stock reported to this office during the year, and which were traced to Basutoland have been recovered. It is very hard to say whether those not so traced have been recovered or not, as none of the border farmers ever report when they find their lost stock. In the few cases in which I could make enquiry, the stock had not been found. The following is a return:—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	13	4	9	4	9	_
Cattle -	18	8	10	8	10	

Mr. P. de la Harpe also reported that he constantly lost goats BASUTOLAND. in small numbers, but none were actually traced to Basutoland.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95.

I subjoin a return of number of passes issued during the year:—

For the purpose of working - - 2,823 For other purposes - - 5,669

The following are approximately the current prices for Basuto-land produce at present in this ward:—

Wheat, 10s. per muid.

Mealies, 5s. ,,

Kaffir corn, 6s. per muid.

Oats, 6s. per muid.

Wool, $\frac{1}{2}d$. to 4d. per lb.

Mohair, 6d. per lb.

Forage, 10s. to 12s. per 100 bundles.

Cattle, 2l. 10s. to 4l. each.

The following is a return of patrols by police during the year:—

Number of patrols -		10.	65	
Number of men engaged	- 10 in-		120	
Number of miles patrolled	· Inter order		3,074	
Number of arrests as under:—				
Contravening Liquor Regulation	ons -		1	
Contravening Pass Regulations		- 1	23	
Other offences -		-	6	

My relations with the Free State authorities continue friendly, and I receive every assistance from them.

W. BOXWELL, Sub-Inspector, Basutoland Mounted Police.

Annual Report, Principal Medical Officer, Basutoland, for the Year ending June 30, 1895.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The public health has been affected by several serious epidemics during the last year.

Small-pox.

Early in December small-pox appeared simultaneously in the

Mafeteng and Mohales Hoek Districts.

N

In the former 59 cases were reported in four villages, but the stringent quarantine which was enforced prevented any further spread, and by the end of January the outbreak had been stamped out. A fresh outbreak (26 cases in one village), which occurred in March, was confined to the village in which the first case appeared

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95. A much more serious epidemic was rife during this period in the Mohale's Hoek Ward, and owing to the fact that most of the infected centres were in the mountainous part of the district and at considerable distances from the camp quarantine was with difficulty enforced, the more especially as, the disease being singularly nonfatal, the element of fear, which in previous epidemics has caused the quarantine to be strictly kept, was absent in this instance. Chicken-pox being epidemic at the same time, there was a natural tendency in the native mind to refuse to recognise in the mild cases of small-pox the more serious of the two diseases. 600 people are computed to have suffered from the disease, and 16 deaths were reported. By the end of March the epidemic had died out.

The rest of Basutoland was practically free from the disease during the year, if one excepts a sporadic case which occurred in the Maseru District. As I anticipated in my last year's report, the disease was effectually stamped out in the Leribe District.

Vaccination.

In connection with the question of small-pox it should be mentioned that vaccination has been vigorously prosecuted throughout the country during the past year. Missionaries and others were provided with lymph, and thanks are due to them for their aid rendered to this section of preventive medicine.

I append a table showing the number of people vaccinated in the various Districts of which records are available. Judging from the amount of lymph distributed to missionaries and others, at least 5,000 should be added to the grand total of cases:—

		Statio	on.		102		Number
Qachas Nek		•	•	-		-	442
Quthing -					. •		1,782
Mohale's Hoek	-	-				-	7,573
Mafeteng -		- 2		-		-	8,864
Maseru -							5,456
Teyateyaneng		-	•			2. 53	2,248
Leribe -		-		Maryor	•	- 1	3,980
Butha Buthe	a William	1	ogn _e ti.			Market Table	1,889
	Total				The state of the s		32,234

It is worthy of record that this large number of vaccinations has been accomplished without entailing any extra charge on the revenue, the amount collected for vaccination certificates being more than sufficient to cover the cost of the lymph.

Measles.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95.

Measles was prevalent at Mohale's Hoek in November and December, but no deaths were recorded.

Typhoid Fever.

Typhoid, which has been epidemic at Mohale's Hoek for some years, appeared in an epidemic form there in April, and two deaths were reported. It would appear that the want of proper sanitation is responsible for the presence of the disease. It is remarkable that throughout the country the outside villages, which are always built on very healthy sites, are free of the disease, while the converse obtains at the camps, for which, in many cases, very unsuitable positions have been chosen.

Leprosy.

A full report on the leprosy question has been presented embodying the results of the investigations carried out by the medical staff during the past year. Fresh cases coming under observation are duly recorded.

Syphilis.

The per-centage of syphilitic to the total number of cases treated shows no diminution, but this does not indicate any spread of the disease, but is accounted for by the fact that people suffering from this complaint are more willing than others to pay the small charge now made for medicine. A diminution in the number of severe tertiary manifestations has been noticed during the last year, and this alone testifies to the influence exercised by the medical work of the last five years in alleviating a condition which at one time threatened to become almost a national calamity.

Diphtheria.

A severe epidemic of diphtheria occurred in Maseru with sporadic cases in the District during the months of January, February, and March. There were 22 cases (most of whom were Europeans) and one death. The epidemic was undoubtedly due to the insanitary condition of the village and its surroundings, which conditions were emphasised by the unhealthy position and condition of most of the houses in which the disease occurred. It is satisfactory to be able to report that the first mentioned of these causes has been remedied.

The new remedy, antitoxin, was tried in two cases, but the limited amount at the disposal of the medical officer precluded any trustworthy conclusion to be drawn as to its value.

Thanks are due to the director of the Bacteriological Institute at Grahamstown for undertaking the examination of specimens of exudation.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95.

HEALTH OF THE POLICE FORCE.

Police.

This calls for no comment. It has been generally good.

SANITARY AFFAIRS.

Sanitation.

Improved sanitation is urgently needed at most stations, and I would strongly urge the desirability of making the dry-earth system compulsory with the European residents at all stations.

Water Supply.

Dr. Leicester reports very favourably of the new water supply at Mafeteng. The present supply at other stations, more especially at Maseru, falls lamentably short of the needs of, and is a standing source of danger to, the community.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY WORK.

Out-patient Work.

As was anticipated, there has been a marked falling off in a section of the attendances during the last year, consequent on the nominal charge now made for medicine. The decrease is most marked in those trivial cases which formerly thronged the dispensaries. There is a distinct upward tendency in the numbers during the last half of the year, and the opinion of the medical staff is unanimous as to the benefit accruing from the system. Owing to the very large number of vaccinations the actual attendances are not much below the average of previous years.

I append a table showing the attendances at the different stations:—

			New Cases.	Subsequent Attendances.	Total.
Moyeni -	June 18		50	10	60
Mohales Hoek -		-	1,584	189	1,773
Mafeteng -			1,549	598	2,147
Maseru -		-	2,154	499	2,653
Leribe -		-	1,578	496	2,074
Grand tot	als -	-	6,915	1,792	8,707

Hospital Work.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95.

Hospital work has been well maintained, but the frequent absence of the medical officers from their stations on duty connected with the leprosy investigation, the small-pox epidemics, and vaccination has interfered with this branch of the work at times. Excellent work has, however, been done in spite of these hindrances, and the relief afforded by the large number of surgical operations performed has been much appreciated. This is a matter for considerable congratulation, seeing that this arduous work is carried out solely by the medical officers without the aid of any nursing staff or skilled assistance whatever, and in hospitals where the furnishing and appliances still leave much to be desired.

I append a tabular statement of the in-patients treated at the different stations:—

			Stati	on.				No.
Mohales H	oek		47.0	in ada	To de la	funa g	THE T	44
		-	272 4		10.00		-	29
Mafeteng Maseru		-			-	-	-	78
Leribe	-	- 5	3	- F- 9 to	no-or i	-	-	34
		To	tal		in John	n Person	- VE	185

E. C. Long, Principal Medical Officer.

Annual Report, Medical Officer, Leribe, for the Year ending June 30, 1895.

I arrived at this station on the 18th May of this year and assumed my duties as medical officer.

For three weeks previous to this no out-patients were seen, and the dispensary was closed for a month, from March 12th to April 16th, during my predecessor's absence on leave.

Vaccination was carried on as usual during these times by the hospital interpreter under the supervision of the Assistant Commissioner.

Statistics.

The following table shows the number of attendances at the dispensary and a comparison with the previous year:—

	95.7	1114	2181				1894–95.	1893–94.
New cases	-	-			1	-	1,581	3,023
Subsequent att	endan	ces	TO Y	- 17		- 4	496	907
Hospital in-pat	tients	-	-		1-1	-	38	50
Hospital in-pat Vaccinations	11537	- 99	-	-	وفيد	-	6,200	2,614
	Tota	al	9.			95	8,315	6,594

Basutoland. 1894-95. It will be seen that there is a considerable decrease in the number of patients attending the dispensary for medicines. This is to be accounted for by the small charge made for the medicines supplied.

1,115 persons paid for medicine and 952 were treated free.

Syphilis is still prevalent in the District, and of those who presented themselves for the first time 341, or 21.4 per cent., were suffering from various forms of the disease. These numbers show a considerable increase on last year's; then only 84 were entered on the books as syphilitic.

Epidemics,

Small-pox lingered in various parts of the District until December; it was a continuation of the epidemic of the previous year.

Whooping cough and influenza were prevalent during December,

January, and February, and were of a mild nature.

Vaccination.

5,769 persons were vaccinated and received certificates, and 341 were vaccinated free. Of the latter 117 were vaccinated at the dispensary, and 224 by police and others.

Health of Police.

The health of the police force continues good. Gastric and catarrhal disorders are frequent complaints.

The health of the prisoners is good.

The sanitary condition of the camps calls for no comment at the present time.

Leprosy.

All the lepers in the District have been seen and examined, and a report forwarded to the Principal Medical Officer.

N. M. MACFARLANE, Medical Officer.

Annual Report of Medical Officer, Mafeteng, for the Year ended June 30, 1895.

The total number of persons treated as out-patients at the dispensary during the period which this report embraces was 2,127.

Of these, 1,529 were new cases and 598 re-attendances. In the hospital 29 persons were treated, the majority being cases requiring surgical procedure for their relief. These figures show a falling off upon those of last year of 3,475 as regards the new cases at the dispensary. Two causes have chiefly been at work in producing this diminution in the number of these who presented themselves for treatment

of those who presented themselves for treatment.

(1.) The system involving the substitution of a nominal money payment for services hitherto rendered as charity was introduced at the beginning of the financial year, and, as was expected, some considerable time must elapse before the natives avail themselves as freely of such services as heretofore. There can, I think, be little doubt that the working of the system has resulted, and will result, in decided benefit to the persons whom it affects.

(2.) The mild winter of 1894 was followed by a prolonged season exceptionally free from epidemics of any kind, and during which the public health maintained a high standard. The one exception, the prevalence of an epidemic of small-pox during the first half of 1895, would tend, and doubtless has tended, in itself to further decrease the numbers of those seen at the public dispensary by cutting off large areas of population in which quarantine regulations were of necessity enforced.

It is worthy of note that the numbers show a distinct tendency

upward month by month.

It is, of course, impossible accurately to gauge the number of persons really needing treatment whom the new system deterred from seeking it. Some estimate may perhaps be gathered from the following table, in which the numbers during a month taken at haphazard in 1894 are compared with those of the corresponding month in 1895, the cases having been classified alike in each.

TABLE A.

	Total.	Syph	ilis.	Dyspe	psia.	Ski	n.	Cata	rhs.	Mir		Tær	nia.	Gon		Diarr	hœa.
Month.	New Cases.	Total.	р. с.														
1894. March	381	51	13.3	71	18.6	59	15.4	24	6.3	63	16.2	4	1.	3	•07	12	3.1
1895. March	113	21	18.2	16	14.1	9	7.9	7	6.1	16	14.1	4	3.2	3	2.5	3	2.2

It will be seen from the above that, while the relative number of cases of syphilis was greater than that of last year, and while in most cases the averages very closely assimilate, the greatest falling off was apparent in non-specific skin diseases, dyspepsia, and minor ailments in the order given. It may fairly be inferred from a study of these figures that Cause 1 has not been the principal agent in producing the decrease in numbers, since, were it so, slight ailments and dyspepsia would have shown a very marked ling off, those in all probability being the cases which would

o 88690.

BASUTOLAND. 1894-95. 81

BASUTOLAND. have been deterred by pecuniary considerations from seeking 1894-95. relief.

2. Two hundred and forty-nine persons treated for some manifestation of syphilis are comprised in the totals given, a percentage of 17:8, somewhat higher than that of last year. If confined to the treatment of this disease alone, which by its wide-spread and disastrous effects is little less than a national calamity, the Government dispensaries would justify their existence, since, while there are good grounds for believing that the disease is yearly diminishing, and working less evil among the inhabitants, the number of those affected who present themselves for treatment maintains a high proportion, and the results of treatment are in the highest degree encouraging.

I find that of all the cases 38.7 presented themselves repeatedly for treatment, and many were watched to complete recovery.

3. The first cases of small-pox were reported in November 1894 from a village 10 miles to the N.E. of this camp, the majority of the inhabitants of that and a neighbouring village were attacked and all recovered.

So soon as a personal inspection by the medical officer had placed the existence of the disease beyond doubt the inhabitants were all vaccinated and the infected area quarantined; these measures were successful in preventing the further spread of the disease in that quarter.

Following this, outbreaks were reported from all parts of the District; everywhere the mild character of the epidemic was apparent, and this was particularly the case as regards children and young adults. An epidemic of varicella was in many places concurrent with the variola. So far as I have been able to learn not more than six deaths occurred throughout the District from this cause.

4. In the matter of leprosy I have nothing to add to my report of last year on the subject. Some few of the cases therein mentioned have been intermittently under treatment, and one fresh case has come to my notice at the dispensary.

5. With the exceptions detailed above, the past year has been one in which no epidemics of note have occurred. Public health in the camp has been on the whole excellent, that of the police force and prisoners entirely so. Sporadic cases of typhoid continue to occur from time to time; it is probable that those affected do not receive the poison at their houses, but during the prosecution of a journey or the paying of visits.

During the year the scheme of supplying the camp with water brought in by pipes has been undertaken and carried out. The intake is distant about two miles from the camp and well removed from human habitations the supply is abundant, and, so far as can be judged, pure; the benefit to the community incalculable.

6. At the beginning of the year certified vaccination was made compulsory on all persons leaving the territory, and up to the end of the year 6,203 certificates have been issued from this centre.

BASHTOLAND. 1894-95.

The total number of vaccinations performed at dispensary was 5.387; and in order to reach those persons who had not the time or inlination to come to the camp for vaccination, public stations were established in various centres throughout the District where attendance was given weekly, and gratuitous arm-to-arm vaccination performed for all who presented themselves. These stations met with considerable success, a total number of 2,661 persons being vaccinated at 10 stations.

The epidemic of small-pox is practically at an end in this

District.

M. E. LEICESTER.

Annual Report of Medical Officer, Mohales Hock, for the Year ending June 30, 1895.

I assumed duty as medical officer of this station on the 1st February of this year. My experience of the work therefore only dates from that time.

Public Health.

A serious outbreak of small-pox made its appearance about the end of November, and rapidly spread to a large number of native villages.

Quarantine, as far as was practicable, was strictly enforced, and vaccination carried out extensively both in the infected areas and at the Government dispensary at Mohales Hoek and elsewhere.

Arm-to-arm vaccination with virus from the pocks helped in some degree to spread the disease. The popularity of this method of securing immunity was short lived, owing, perhaps, to the fact that the chief advocate and practitioner of it, a native doctor, himself succumbed to the disease. It was not possible to obtain reliable information as to the number of persons who suffered from the disease during the whole epidemic, but there is every reason to suppose that the number must have been very large. The disease was, however, mild in type and the mortality very low. In all 7,404 persons were vaccinated with calf lymph supplied by the Bacteriological Institute at Grahams Town, at the Government dispensary, and by vaccinators in the infected areas. vaccination certificates were issued to persons leaving the territory. If the vaccination carried out by missionaries and others with lymph supplied from this office, and the arm-to-arm vaccination resorted to by the natives themselves be taken into account, I estimate that the number of persons protected by vaccination during the last year is not less than 10,000. I think it is a matter for congratulation that after the disease had taken so firm a hold of the community it has been possible to stamp it out with so little loss of life.

I regret to have to report the occurrence of typhoid fever amongst the natives resident on the Government Reserve. disease made its appearance early in the year, and was of the so-called "typho-malarial" type and lacking some of the more BASUTOLAND. 1894-95. typical features of typhoid fever. During the last four months 16 cases have come under my notice, all children or young adults. Four cases (25 per cent.) ended fatally. After repeated and careful inquiry I am unable to assign any certain cause for the outbreak, though it seems most probable that it was due to drinking polluted water.

A severe epidemic of measles, which attacked many residents on the Reserve, occurred in November, lasting through the following

month.

The health of the police detachment and of the prisoners in the gaol has been good.

Sanitation.

I found it necessary some months ago to draw attention to the danger involved in continuing the present objectionable system of cesspits which obtains amongst Europeans resident in the camp.

This mode of disposing of night soil is here the more particularly objectionable, as the fountain from which the Europeans draw their water supply lies at a lower level, and there is thus always a danger of sewage contamination. The question of substituting a pail, or dry-earth, system for the present one is now under consideration by the executive.

I desire also to point out the need which exists for a proper water supply for the camp. Abundant and pure water can be obtained from kloofs close to and overlooking the camp, and if supplied in pipes all danger of contamination would be avoided.

The Public Dispensary and Hospital.

From the 1st July 1894 a sixpenny charge for each attendance for all out-patients, except police and other Government employees, was made. As will be seen by the subjoined table, the attendance has fallen off to less than half that of last year in the new cases, and that in the subsequent attendance the falling off is proportionately even more marked. This last may, I think, be explained by the sixpenny charge preventing patients from persevering in treatment unless marked beneficial results are at once evident. To cases of syphilis this particularly applies. On the whole the charge seems to have weeded out many trivial cases that only attended out of pure love of physic-drinking, and also many deserving cases too poor to afford sixpence for each attendance.

Table showing attendances for this and corresponding period of last year.

	1893–94.		1894–95.					
Out-p	atients.		Out-p	atients.				
New Cases.	Subsequent Attendances.	In-patients.	New Cases.	Subsequent Attendances.	In-patients.			
3,229	1,369	51	1,584	189	44			

Of the 1,584 new cases, 860 were males, 724 females, and 369 of BASUTOLAND. these were infants and children. 991 paid the sixpenny fee.

1894 95.

Syphilis still continues to bear an undue proportion to other cases treated. 179, or 12 per cent. of all cases, were syphilitic. Of these 116 were adults with whom it was probably acquired; in 63 cases it was congenital. The preponderance of cases of digestive troubles was again very marked. One fresh case of leprosy has come under my notice since the report on this subject was forwarded to you. It occurred in a young female European resident in this camp.

W. M. EATON, Medical Officer.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 166.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 138 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

June 1896.



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1896.

[C.-7944.-18.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Col	ony.				Year.
132	Lagos	•				1893
133	British Guiana -	-		-	-	1893-4
134	Jamaica				-	,,,
135	Newfoundland -					1893
136	Gold Coast	-				99
137	Zululand	-		-		1894
138	Bermuda	•		-		99
139	Bahamas	-	-		-	99
140	Barbados	-		•	-	"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	-			-	99
142	Malta		-	•		"
143	Gambia	-	41			,,
144	Windward Islands -		-	-	-	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	-	•	•	-	,,,
146	Gibraltar	-	V - 3	11.	-	99
147	Falkland Islands -	-	-14	175-		"
148	Hong Kong -	-			-	99
149	Straits Settlements -	•	• 11			22
150	Lagos	-	-	-	-	"
151	Seychelles	-	-	-		"
152	Basutoland -	-	-		1-1-	1894-5
153	Fiji				-	1894
154	St. Helena -				•	"
155	Ceylon				-	"
156	Mauritius		-		-	"
157	Labuan			-	-	99
158	Gold Coast				-	"
159	British Guiana -	-		11 - 1	-	"
160	Sierra Leone -		-			99
161	Jamaica	-		AP - I		1894-5
162	British Honduras -					1894
163	British Bechuanaland					1894-5
164	Newfoundland -		-		-	1894
165	Gambia				-	1895

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Color	ny.		Subject.
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -	1		Forests.
3	Sierra Leone			Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -			Emigration.
5	Bahamas		-	Sisal Industry.

No. 166.

BERMUDA 1895.

BERMUDA.

[For Report for 1894, see No. 138.]

Governor Lyons to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the Annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1895, which has been prepared by Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
T. C. Lyons, General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Bermuda, March 28, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1895:—

Finance.

2. The revenue for the year amounted to 37,830*l*, and the expenditure to 33,006*l*. Compared with 1894 the revenue shows an increase of 5,354*l*, and the expenditure a decrease of 1,210*l*.

The expenditure returns in 1894, however, included a sum of 1,000l., temporarily advanced by the Treasury to the Savings Bank. This amount was refunded in 1895 and is included in the revenue returns for that year.

The revenue returns for 1895 are also swelled by the payment into the Treasury of a sum of 1,050l., being the premiums received on the loan of 40,000l., raised in 1893-94, and by payment of sums amounting to 2,170l., by the Trustees of the Savings Bank, being the excess of the assets of the Savings Bank over its liabilities consequent on the high price of consols in which the funds of its Bank are invested.

Excluding these amounts the revenue shows an increase compared with 1894 of 1,134L, and the expenditure a decrease of 210L.

The expenditure in 1895 out of the loan raised in 1893-94 in connection with the improvement of the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour amounted to 8,464l.

o 92190. Wt. 20348.

SIR,

BERMUDA. 1895.

3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1895 with that of 1894:—

Revenue.

-				Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
1894 -			-	£ 25,444	ę 7,032	£ 32,476
1895 -	-	-	-	27,451	10,379	37,830
Increase		THE P	-	2,007	3,347	5,354

Expenditure.

		•		Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
1894 -	-		-	£ 18,191	£ 16,025	£ 34,216
1895 -		-	-	17,055	15,951	33,006
Decrease	-		-	1,136	74	1,210

The receipts from the customs in 1895, compared with the preceding year show an increase under every important heading; the increase in the 5 per cent. ad valorem duties amounted to 587l., in the duties on cigars and cigarettes 190l., on malt liquors 769l., on rum 269l., and on other spirits 187l.

Compared with 1894 the following were the principal

differences shown in the disbursements:-

					£
Interest, an increase of	f -			-	1,011
Post Office "		-	11-	-	824
Public Health ,,	拉约拉 鱼用	-		-	428
Whilst in the—					
Colonial Surveyor's	Office	there	was	a	
decrease of -	- 1		300.4	•	271
Annuities and gratuitie	es a de	crease	of	-	575
Public debt	9)	99	A. S	-	500
Refunds of duty	99	,, -	and a	-	200
Gaols	99	. ,,	O-Jimi	-	340
Miscellaneous payment	s ,,	,, -		-	522
Pilotage	99	"	0- 60	-	235
Savings Bank	,,	,, -	10 4 115	-	988

The increase under the heading of interest is due to the payment of a whole year's interest on the 40,0001, raised in 1893-94 for the purpose of improving the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour, under the heading of Post Office to the

5

payment of transit charges to the United States Post Office on mails conveyed through that country during the preceding three years, and under the heading of Public Health to the appointment of the Medical Officer of Health for these islands and for supplies required at the quarantine station.

BERMUDA. 1895. 91

4. The Imperial expenditure returns are as follow: -

Governor's salary - - - 2,199
Military establishments - - 102,230

Compared with 1894, the latter return shows an increase of 8,3421.

The expenditure on the Naval establishments is not returned.

Public Debt.

5. The Public debt at the end of 1895 amounted to 47,100l., made up as follows:—

Local Inscribed Stock - - - 40,000 New Government House Debentures - 7,100

The rate of interest on the local inscribed stock is $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. and the average rate of interest on the Government House debentures is $4\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. Both of these loans were issued locally.

Public Works.

6. The contract entered into with Messrs. S. Pearson & Son to deepen and widen the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour was nearly completed at the end of 1895.

Legislation.

7. The regular session of 1895, which commenced on 29th May,

did not close till 27th January 1896.

Of the 27 Acts passed during the year, Act No. 22, entitled "An Act to incorporate the Bermuda Produce Exchange, "Limited," is the only one which calls for special notice. The object of this measure is to give a legal status with limited liability to an association of merchants and planters who have combined to form a company to control and handle the vegetable crops sent to the New York market from these islands, the Bermuda planters being of opinion that the unremunerative prices which they of late years have obtained for their staple products in that market are due in great part to their competition with each other there.

During the year, 14 resolves were passed appropriating 6,2097. for services not otherwise provided for by law.

BERMUDA. 1895.

Councils and Assembly.

8. Mr. Joseph H. Harvey, a member of the Legislative Council of these islands, died in August, and Mr. S. S. Ingham, the Speaker of the House of Assembly, was selected to fill the vacant seat. Mr. T. J. Wadson was elected Speaker of the Assembly in Mr. Ingham's room.

Civil Establishment.

9. Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. S. Moore, R.E., administered the government during the absence on leave of the Governor, from 1st August to 6th October.

Mr. E. Harvey, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Medical Superintendent of the lunatic asylum, was appointed Medical Officer of Health at

a salary of 400l. per annum on the 1st January.

Mr. A. F. Smith, who has served as clerk in the Colonial Secretary's office since 1886, was appointed in September, Assistant Colonial Secretary.

There were no other changes of any importance in the civil

establishment during the year.

Imports (exclusive of specie).

10. The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at 40l.)

in 1895 was 305,474l.

Compared with 1894 this shows an increase of 21,522l., but with 1893 a decrease of 15,839l., and with 1892 a decrease of 23,469l.

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1894 and 1893 is shown in the following

table:—

_		1894.	1895.
United Kingdom		£ 85,903	£ 88,38 3
Canada	-	21,162	19,639
Other British Colonies -	-	8,895	8,403
United States of America -	-	166,705	187,385
Other Countries		1,287	1,664
Total -	4	283,952	305,474

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1895 were clothing, valued at 5,348l.; cotton goods, 4,813l.; woollen goods, 7,058l.; materials for clothing, 17,008l.; oilman's stores, 5,410l.; and malt liquor, 16,041l

The principal imports from the United States of America were bran, valued at 4,088*l.*; butter, 10,527*l.*; corn, 3,842*l.*; fertilizers, 3,262*l.*; flour, 13,705*l.*: canned fruit and meat, 4,856*l.*; furniture, 3,286*l.*; groceries, 5,416*l.*; hardware, 3,202*l.*; leather manufactures, 5,074*l.*; lumber, 3,935*l.*; kerosene oil, 3,566*l.*; oats, 6,360*l.*; smoked and pickled meat, 13,076*l.*; sheep, 2,839*l.*; oxen and cows, 30,514*l.*

BERMUDA. 1895.

Exports (exclusive of specie).

11. The value of the exports (exclusive of specie, valued at 6,895l.) in 1895 was 109,018l.

Compared with 1894 this shows an increase of 14,684l. but

with 1893 a decrease of 13,9611.

The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1894 and 1895:—

ed ago or and the			1894.	1895.
United Kingdom -			£ 2,003	£ 2,129
Canada	-	6	2,634	1,204
Other British Colonies	-	no a la	1,248	1,351
United States of America	-	- 58	85,163	103,577
Other countries -			3,286	757
Total -	-	-	94,334	109,018

The principal export to the United Kingdom in 1895 was hides valued at 1,2001.

The principal exports to the United States were onions, valued at 44,424l., a decrease compared with the preceding year of 990l., and compared with 1893 a decrease of 15,446l., lily bulbs, valued at 28,370l., an increase compared with the preceding year of

11,248*l.*, and potatoes, 26,495*l.*, an increase of 7,778*l.*

The decrease in value of the onions exported during 1895 was due to a fall in price in the New York market, the crop having been much larger than that of the preceding year. In the case of potatoes the increase may be accounted for by the larger crop raised, and in the case of lily bulbs the increase was due partly to better prices and partly to larger crops.

Population and Public Health.

12. The Registrar-General estimated the resident civilian population of these islands at the end of 1895 at 15,794 comprising 6,037 white (2,957 males and 3,080 females) and 9,757 coloured persons (4,518 males and 5,239 females.)

The birth rate was 32.6 and the death rate 21.7 per 1,000.

Of the births, 13.2 per cent were illegitimate.

BERMUDA. 1895.

It is satisfactory to be able to note the decrease of late years in the per-centage of illegitimate to total births amongst the coloured population in these islands. In the ten years 1872-81 the per-centage was 29.2, it fell to 24.8 in the ten years 1882-91, and to 22.1 in the four years 1892-95.

The death rate according to colour in 1895 was 20.8 per 1,000 amongst the resident white, and 21.85 per 1,000 amongst the coloured, population. The infantile death rate or proportion of deaths of infants under one year of age to registered living births

was 14.2 per cent.

The average strength of the Imperial Forces in Bermuda in 1895 was 2,747 and the deaths 29, the rate of mortality thus being 10.5 per 1,000. Of these deaths 20 were due to enteric fever, 1 to abscess of brain, 1 to apoplexy, 1 to myelitis, 1 to valvular disease of the heart, 1 to pernicious anæmia, 1 to aneurysm,

2 to pneumonia, and 1 to a gunshot wound (self-inflicted).

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the Military Forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been good. Average strength of the garrison 1,447; number of admissions to hospital 984; ratio of admissions per 1,000 of strength 680.03; average number of daily sick 56.56; average sick time to each soldier, 14.27 days; average duration of each case of sickness 20.98 days. Average strength of officers 59; cases of sickness 21; deaths none.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the mean daily strength of the Naval Forces at Bermuda for the year 1895 corrected for the period that each ship remained in port was 1,300,

a decrease of 100 as compared with the previous year.

The number of cases treated in the Royal Naval Hospital was 262, a diminution of 119 as compared with the preceding year, the reduction being chiefly observable in simple continued fevers and influenza, the latter being entirely absent. Two cases of enteric fever were entered; there were no deaths.

Criminal Statistics.

13. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 450, a decrease compared with 1894 of 3 and with 1893 of 46.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 391, of whom 225 were summarily convicted, 57 discharged for want of evidence, 86 acquitted and 23 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 225 persons summarily convicted, 155 were fined, 11 imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 39 were peremptorily

imprisoned and 20 bound over to keep the peace.

Nineteen cases were tried in the superior courts during the year and the convictions numbered 11. Of these five were for offences against the person, five for offences against property, and one was classified under the heading of "Miscellaneous offences."

Gaols.

BERMUDA. 1895.

14. The number of persons confined in the gaols was 109 (97 males and 12 females). Of these 50 were committed for safe custody till trial or for want of security and 59 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

Lunatic Asylum.

15. Four patients (2 males and 2 females) were admitted into the Asylum in 1895, one was discharged and one died. The daily average number of patients was 37.

Education.

16. The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:— 20 aided primary schools; 1,122 scholars (582 and 540 girls); school fees 465l.; Government contributions 915l.

Two aided secondary schools with 88 scholars (52 boys and 36

girls), school fees 228l., Government contributions 116l.

In addition to two garrison schools and one dockyard school, there are about 30 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants.

Meteorological Observations.

17. The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp,

which is 115 feet above sea level, show as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30.115 inches; mean temperature of the air, 70.5 degrees; mean relative humidity, 84.8 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 8.7 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 63.10 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past 17 years, 2.92 inches less; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 223.

Board of Trade Statistics.

18. The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below:-

Population.

	-		Males.	Females.	Total.
1894			7,381	8,262	15,643
1895			7,475	8,319	15,794

BERMUDA. 1895.

	1894.	1895.
NO THE CONTRACTOR OF RESIDENCE AND	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue	32,475	37,829
Gross amount of public expenditure	34,216	33,005
Customs revenue	25,444	27,451
Public debt	47,100	47,100
ubite debt	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	293,808	361,683
Fonnage of British vessels entered and cleared -	272,593	286,695
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared -	21,305	74,988
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared -	39,409	34,140
Fonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared -	254,399	327,543
Tollhage of Steam vossess careers and steamers	£	£
Value of total imports (including specie) Value of total imports of gold and silver bullion	310,847	305,514
and specie (so far as can be stated) Value of imports from the United Kingdom	26,895	40
(including specie)	90,703	88,383
Value of total exports (including specie) Value of total exports of gold and silver bullion	98,377	115,918
and specie (so far as can be stated) - Value of total exports to the United Kingdom	4,043	6,895
(including specie)	2,003	2,129
Amount of expenditure from loans on public works	9,653	8,464

I have, &c.

ARCHIBALD ALISON,
Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency General Thomas Casey Lyons, C.B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Bermuda.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 163.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1894-5.

(For Report for 1893-4, see No. 130 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



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1896.

[C.—7944.-15.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colo	ny.				Year.
128	Grenada					1893
129	Sierra Leone -	-			-	,,,
130	British Bechuanaland	-			-	1893-94
131	British New Guinea			-	9:	1892–3 & 1893–4
132	Lagos	-			-	1893
133	British Guiana -				-	1893-94
134	Jamaica	-	-		-	,,,
135	Newfoundland -	-		•	-	1893
136	Gold Coast -	-		-		,,,
137	Zululand					1894
138	Bermuda	-			-	"
139	Bahamas	-			•	"
140	Barbados	•		-	-	"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	-		-		"
142	Malta	-	•	•	-	"
143	Gambia			•	-	"
144	Windward Islands -	-		-		22
145	Trinidad and Tobago	-	WF .		-	>>
146	Gibraltar	-	•			>>
147	Falkland Islands -	-	•		-	27
148	Hong Kong -	-			-	"
149	Straits Settlements -			-		"
150	Lagos	-			-	29
151	Seychelles	-				"
152	Basutoland -	-	-		-	1894-95
153	Fiji	-		-	-	1894
154	St. Helena -	•	•	-	-	,,
155	Ceylon	-	•		-	"
156	Mauritius	-			-	,,
157	Labuan	-		-	-) ,,
158	Gold Coast -	•	-	BE-II		"
159	British Guiana -	•		13.5		1894-95
160	Sierra Leone -	•		4		1894
161	Jamaica	~		-		1894-95
162	British Honduras -	-				1894

MISCELLANEOUS.

lo.	Colony.		Subject.	
1 2 3 4	Gold Coast Zululand - Sierra Leone			Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -			Emigration.

No. 163.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

(For Reports for 1893-4, see No. 130.)

British Bechuana-Land. 1894-5.

Sir HERCULES ROBINSON to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Cape Town, October 11, 1895.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your information, a copy of a Despatch from the Administrator of British Bechuanaland enclosing the annual reports of the territory for the year 1894-5.

You will, doubtless, cause me to be furnished with printed copies of the reports, on which I think it unnecessary, in present circumstances, to comment, except to endorse Sir S. Shippard's testimony as to the value of the services performed by the civil servants of the Colony.

I have communicated these reports unofficially to my Ministers.

I have, &c.

HERCULES ROBINSON,

Governor and High Commissioner.

Enclosure.

From Administrator, Vryburg, to His Excellency the Governor, Cape Town.

Administrator's Office, British Bechuanaland, Str., Vryburg, September 20, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Excellency's information, the following reports on the progress and condition of British Bechuanaland, and the Protectorate for the year ending 31st March 1895:—

						Page
1.	The	Colonial Secretary ar	nd Receiver	r-Gene	ral -	8
2	The	Crown Prosecutor	-	-		12
3.	. The	Surveyor-General	100	-	-	12
4	. The	Postmaster-General		-	-	20
5	The	Collector of Customs	1-20	-		26
6.	The	Inspector of Native 1	Reserves	-	-	33
0	89370.	Wt. 20348.			A	2

BRITISH
BECHUANALAND.
1894-5.

	Page
7. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magis-	
trate of Vryburg	34
8. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magis-	
trate of Mafeking	39
9. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magis-	
trate of Taungs	42
10. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magis-	
trate of Kuruman	43
11. The Civil Commissioner and Resident Magis-	
trate of Gordonia, including the report of	
the District Surgeon	44
12. The Matron of Vryburg Hospital -	50
13. The District Surgeon of Vryburg	51
14. The District Surgeon of Mafeking -	51
15. The Assistant Commissioner for the Southern	
Protectorate	52
16. The Assistant Commissioner for the Northern	02
Protectorate	55
17. The Officer commanding the Bechuanaland	00
Border Police, including reports for	50
Medical Officers	59
18. The Superintendent of Rural Schools	64

The expenditure during the financial year 1894-95 has been less by about 6,000*l*. than that of any of the last five financial years, while the revenue has been the largest ever yet collected in this territory, exceeding by 20 per cent. the amount collected during the previous year. The increase of revenue in the Crown Colony amounted to about 12,000*l*., and the difference between revenue and expenditure was reduced to about 3,000*l*.

66

19. The Government Engineer Officer

In view of the steady growth of revenue and of the economy in expenditure, these figures show that in another year the Crown Colony, if still in existence, should yield a surplus.

In the Bechuanaland Protectorate the revenue was about 7,600l, while there the expenditure, chiefly on police, amounted to about 85,000l.

It is gratifying to note that there has been an almost total absence of serious crime throughout British Bechuanaland. Indeed, it very rarely happens that any Bechuana or aboriginal inhabitant is imprisoned on any charge whatever in any gaol in the territory. This is partly due to strict enforcement of the salutary laws prohibiting the supply of liquor to natives, and partly to the wholesome discipline maintained by native chiefs, to whom a certain measure of jurisdiction is assigned by the laws and regulations of the territory.

The total area of the Crown Colony may be roughly estimated at about 50,000 square miles. Of this extent about 20,000 square miles, in round numbers, have been disposed of or granted to private owners; 12,000 square miles have been given as consideration for the construction of a railway between Kimberley

and Mafeking; and the remaining 18,000 square miles are still at the disposal of Government as vacant Crown land. If a square mile be taken to represent about 300 morgen (or, say, 600 acres) this, at the extremely moderate rate of sixpence an acre, would represent a prairie value of at least 270,000l. This, of course, is irrespective of the value of the minerals of various kinds with which the country abounds. It would probably be nearer the mark to estimate the value of the vacant crown land in British Bechuanaland at half a million sterling. With reference to minerals I will merely state that diamonds have been found on the Vryburg commonage, that prospecting for gold with encouraging results is going on in the Vryburg district; and that, if the reports of those interested are to be believed, reefs of great extent and extraordinary richness have been discovered.

The Postal and Telegraph Service, which now extends as far as Buluwayo, may, on the whole, be considered fairly satisfactory for the time being, in view of the enormous distances to be traversed and the primitive state of the Protectorate; but the high rates charged are a source of universal discontent. The returns of the Department show that while the total cost in the last financial year was upwards of 12,000l. the excess of expenditure over revenue was only about 900l. In other words, this Department is within measurable distance of being, to say the least, self-supporting.

The Customs returns show an increase of imports, amounting to 35 per cent. above those of the preceding year. This advance is to be attributed partly to the increasing occupation of farms, and partly to the rapidly growing trade and traffic passing through Bechuanaland to the territories of the British South Africa Company. In the Protectorate, the returns of imports show an increase of 68 per cent. over those of the preceding year.

The gross Customs receipts for 1894-5 amount to about 25,000l., being about 6,500l. in excess of those of the financial year, 1893-4.

The collection of hut tax throughout the Crown Colony has been unusually good, the returns showing an increase of about 1,300l. over the collection of the preceding financial year. The natives generally are quite contented and very prosperous, in spite of the failure of many crops through drought and the ravages of locusts. They thoroughly appreciate the blessings of British rule, under which they enjoy in peace the fruits of their labours. Many of the younger men earn good wages in the Kimberley and Johannesburg mines, or in domestic service, while the fortunate possessors of waggons and oxen gain considerable sums as carriers between the present railway terminus at Mafeking and Buluwayo. The greater part of the carrying trade through the Protectorate is at present in the hands of natives.

The reports of the Civil Commissioners and Resident Magistrates of the Crown Colony call for no special remark. They all, in the main, tell the same tale of increasing population and growing revenue with an almost total absence of crime.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5,

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

The reports of the Government Medical Officers show that the health of the population has been, generally speaking, good, with the exception of an extensive outbreak of small-pox among the natives. The disease is of a mild type and very few deaths have occurred. Stringent precautions have in all cases been adopted and isolation, vaccination, and fumigation have produced the usual Where, in order to stamp out the disease; it has been necessary to burn down native huts, compensation has in all cases

been paid to the owners.

The Vryburg Cottage Hospital, of which Miss Agnes Cowan is at present matron, is admirably managed, and is proving of the utmost use to the community, especially in serious accidents. It contains 12 beds, of which nine are devoted to European patients and three are available for casualties or cases of dangerous illness among natives. The number of cases admitted has of late greatly increased, and the patients discharged cured speak in the highest terms of their treatment. The building, which is so planned as to admit of enlargement as required, occupies the best site in the township, and the ground enclosed is sufficiently extensive to admit of a separate building for native cases. The arrangements for this hospital were originally made after correspondence with Dr. Fitzgerald, who so long directed the excellent hospital founded by Sir George Grey at King William's Town. I venture to express a hope that the Vryburg Cottage Hospital may be specially commended to the fostering care of the future Government of this territory. At Mafeking there is a small Police Hospital, which has proved a boon to the Force, especially in cases of fever and dysentery among men stationed in the valley of the Limpopo or Crocodile River, for whom Mafeking is a sanatorium.

In the Bechuanaland Protectorate the three most noteworthy incidents during the past year have been the peaceful settlement of old intertribal disputes, by the delimitation of Khama's southern and south-western boundary; the satisfactory termination of the long-standing quarrel between the Bakwena Chief Sebele and his brother Khari, through the location of the latter at Kolobeng, and the successful colonisation of the Ghansi territory, near Lake Ngami, by a party of trek Boers under the guidance, and with the assistance, of a detachment of the Bechuanaland Border Police

commanded by Captain J. W. Fuller.

It is almost superfluous to praise the Mounted Police Force of Bechuanaland. The mere fact that law and order have been maintained throughout so vast an area by a mere handful of men speaks volumes for the zeal and efficiency with which their duties have been performed.

Major Panzera, the Engineer Officer in charge of Public Works, has furnished full reports and has performed his duties to the

entire satisfaction of the Government.

The public schools for both sexes in Vryburg and Mafeking have made good progress with Government aid, but the cause of education in this territory demands far more liberal treatment than has yet been accorded to it. Much has been done by the

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

7

Rev. D. Wilcocks, of the Dutch Reformed Church, who has acted as Superintendent of Rural Schools, but this gentleman's services are no longer available. Vryburg ought, in my opinion, to be made an educational centre, not only for the whole of Bechuanaland and the territories of the British South Africa Company, but also for the south-western districts of the Transvaal. A step in the right direction would be the establishment of a college and public school for boys at Vryburg on the lines of St. Andrew's College, and of a high school for girls, on the model of the diocesan school for girls at Grahamstown. No better site for a college or school could be found than that of the present Government buildings. Vryburg has much to recommend it as an educational centrefacility of access and communication, perfect salubrity, an unsurpassable climate, a well supplied market, and entire freedom from objectionable surroundings of any kind.

As this is the last time I shall have the honour of furnishing an annual report on the condition of Bechuanaland, I hope I may be

pardoned for indulging in a very brief retrospect.

When ten years ago Her Majesty's Government was first established in British Bechuanaland, the country had only just been rescued from the horrors of war in the peculiarly cruel and unprincipled form commonly called filibustering. The plundered natives had barely recovered from a state of terror. The land was to all intents and purposes in a condition of barbarism. It is now as peaceable and, in the main, as well governed as any part of Her Majesty's dominions. Life and property are safer now throughout this immense territory than in many parts of London. has to a great extent been surveyed and settled. The natives are well provided for and are prosperous and happy. Evidences of progress in every respect might readily be adduced; but it is needless to enlarge on the theme. The facts need no comment. In the first year of administration here the revenue was, roughly speaking, 7,000l.; it is now 70,000l. The wealth still in the country is incalculable. Its future is bright indeed. At a moderate computation, Her Majesty's Government has spent two millions sterling on it, and now hands it over as a free gift to the Cape Colony, with at the very least a quarter of a million's worth of vacant Crown land, all the public buildings, and all its untold wealth in minerals. Apart from the potentialities of mineral development, the Cape Colony will at once derive from British Bechuanaland a surplus revenue exceeding 20,000l. a year. To grudge so magnificent a donation might seem ungenerous, but it is no exaggeration to say that such a gift to a self-governing Colony is an instance of Imperial munificence to which it would hardly be possible to find a parallel.

In conclusion, I beg to add a few words with reference to the Civil servants of this territory. It is needless for me to study wellrounded periods in praise of these gentlemen. It is to their labours that the success of this administration is due, and the results they have achieved speak in their favour more eloquently than any BRITISH
BECHUANA=
LAND.
1894-5.

words of mine could. I will only express my hope that they may one and all receive on the annexation of this territory to the Cape Colony the just and generous treatment which they have so well deserved.

I have, &c.

SIDNEY SHIPPARD, Administrator.

The Governor and High Commissioner, Cape Town.

1. REPORT of the COLONIAL SECRETARY and RECEIVER-GENERAL.

Receiver-General's Office, British Bechuanaland, June 29, 1895.

SIR,

June 29, 1895. I HAVE the honour to submit the annual report of this

department for the year ending the 31st March last.

The following are comparative statements of revenue and expenditure in British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate during the last five financial years:—

Revenue.

-	1890–91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893–94.	1894–95
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs revenue	2,448	12,579	13,326	16,392	21,834
Hut tax	3,410	1,975	3,450	3,941	5,283
Licences	2,917	3,252	3,228	3,024	3,184
Revenue stamps	2,154	2,743	2,514	2,515	2,784
Transfer duty	2,730	2,996	2,993	3,223	4,503
Auction duty	190	223	197	242	225
Fines and ees	772	565	654	959	. 753
Survey receipts	1,507	538	2,820	4,079	737
(Coloner -	2,204	3,096	2,535 7		or the Carlotter
Post Office Protectorate -	1,412	3,017	2,202	5,195	7,367
Telegraphs	2,543	2,605	2,492	2,431	3,396
Quit-rents	4,330	3,758	3,871	5,574	6,043
Other rents	195	474	410	265	287
Sales of Government pro-					
perty	606	2,440	465	315	748
Sundries	215	340	125	169	489
Sundry receipts in aid -	1,123	1,724	2,125	3,353	2,112
Contribution from British					
South Africa Company -	2,475	3,100	406		
Protectorate revenue		452	1,344	1,100	1,144
Total, excluding land }	31,231	45,875	45,157	52,796	60,889
sale 5	11 970	5.061			
Land sales	11,270	5,061	187	2,574	6,267
Total	42,501	50,936	45,344	55,370	67,156

Expenditure.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND 1894-5.

9

	1890-91.	1891–92.	1892-93.	1893–94.	1894-95
The Charles against the	£	£	£	£	£
Pensions	1,250	950	887	905	848
Administrator	3,374	3,016	3,274	3,161	2,850
Colonial Secretary and Re-					
ceiver-General	2,350	2,174	2,302	2,337	2,370
Store Department	516		-	10	_
Native affairs	871	898	1,410	1,177	1,295
Legal	3,092	4,141	3,882	4,206	4,426
District administration -	5,936	6,809	7,180	7,258	7,169
Posts and telegraphs -	9,661	15,621	14,846	12,593	12,520
Customs	_	1,122	1,167	1,392	1,678
Police	106,229	95,391	94,234	178,773	89,254
Education	248	307	568	750	979
Transport	774	533	914	1,045	982
Miscellaneous	2,240	4,298	3,788	4,752	6,069
Surveyor-General	11,014	8,332	6,920	6,670	4,299
Hospital			1,210	500	482
Public works, recurrent -	939	919	892	1,839	2,313
Assistant extraordinary Commissioner,	1,779	5,929	8,153	7,685	6,088
Palapye Commissioner,	2,408	2,085	851	865	1,194
Gaberones	1,160	1,642	1,536	1,435	1,366
Special payments	4,551	762	73.		2,155
Concessions commissions -	-	-	-	585	39
Total	158,392	154,929	154,087	237,928	148,376

REVENUE.

Customs.

Last year I was unable to report any increase on the amount realised from this source in the Crown Colony. This year there is an increase of about 2,400l. in the Crown Colony and of about 2,600l. in the Protectorate, making a total increase of over 5,000l. I must, as usual, refer to the very full report of the Collector of Customs for particulars of this most important and increasing branch of revenue.

Hut Tax.

The appointment of a collector of hut tax to assist the Inspector of Native Reserves in his collecting duties is more than ever justified by the receipt this year of a sum exceeding by over 1,000l. the largest amount ever previously produced by this tax in This result is the more satisfactory, as it must be borne in mind that natives of the Crown Colony, from whom alone this tax is collected, are also liable to a wheel tax of half-a-crown per wheel, which this year they have, for the most part. readily paid.

Of the remaining heads of revenue, fines and fees, survey receipts, sales of Government property, sundry receipts in aid, and sundries,

call for no remark. The collections under them are fortuitous, and a considerable portion of them consists of reimbursements of miscellaneous items of expenditure incurred at various times.

The small item of auction duty shows a decrease, which has some significance. Auction sales are commonly the result of distress or discontent, produced by bad harvest or reverse of some kind. Were it not that this duty is of some slight use as

an indicator it might well be dispensed with.

Of the remaining and more genuine sources of revenue, licences, revenue stamps, transfer duty, posts and telegraphs, and quit-rents, each show in a more or less marked degree an increase on the figures of the previous year. The increase of the existing population, the immigration of farmers and their families from neighbouring countries, the sustained appreciation of the value of land, and the introduction of new capital, have combined to produce a revenue in the Crown Colony exceeding by 20 per

cent. the amount collected during the previous year.

The improvement in revenue for posts and telegraphs during the year is a marked feature in the accounts, while the expenditure under the same head has decreased slightly. On examination it will be found that the Department was worked at a loss of 1,800l. during the year 1894-95, whereas during the previous year the deficiency exceeded 5,000l. Now that the post runs twice a week throughout the whole length of the Protectorate without any additional expenditure, an increase of revenue may be expected which should ensure the working of the Department without any loss.

EXPENDITURE.

It is satisfactory to find that increase of revenue has not been accompanied by a corresponding increase in expenditure; in fact, the expenditure is not only very much less than it was during the year 1893-4, which, in consequence of the Matebele war, was an extraordinary one, but is the smallest incurred during the past five years. In consequence it became possible for the Colony to forego a portion of the grant in aid, and a sum of 8,000% was withheld.

All the items of expenditure agree closely with the amounts shown in the revised estimates prepared during February last.

During the year, five farms which were hypothecated to the Imperial Government as security in connection with the Stellaland debt were purchased by the Bechuanaland Government at a cost of 1,838l.

The wheel tax which was imposed during the year resulted in the collection of an amount of 2,500*l*. available for the making and repair of roads in the Colony, and added a sum of 270*l*. to the general revenue.

From the figures furnished in the accompanying tables and eports it will be seen that the bulk of the deficit in respect

of which the grant-in-aid is annually made by the Imperial Government is on account of the excess of expenditure over revenue in the Protectorate. The total revenue of that country was about 7,600l., while the expenditure may be apportioned at about 85,000l. On the other hand, the deficit between revenue and expenditure in the Crown Colony was, as nearly as may be at present estimated, something under 3,000l., while it must be borne in mind that all the charges of a central administration, which is also responsible for the collection of revenue and the administration of justice in the Protectorate, are included in the Crown Colony account.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

Your Honour will recollect that last year I was able to report that the revenue of 1893-94 showed an increase of 10,000*l*. on that of the preceding year. This year there is a further increase of 12,000*l*, while the whole expenditure is, as I have already pointed out, the smallest incurred during the five years shown in

the accompanying schedule.

The filling up of the Crown Colony, by increase and influx of population, is the main reason for this satisfactory result. British Bechuanaland is no longer a mere gangway to the North. It is true that on the eastern border there are many rows of prosperous farms in the Transvaal which from year to year bring in increased quantities of produce to Vryburg and Mafeking, and can take back little or nothing in exchange, but to the westward the country which is still marked on the most recent maps as the Kalahari Desert is coming as rapidly as possible into occupation. Farmers from the Cape Colony, the Transvaal, and the Orange Free State, have now taken up nearly all the available land, and are waiting until some portions of the railway grant are offered for Further westward still the country is found to be no desert, and squatters, trekkers, traders, Bastards, and natives are gradually spreading over it as far as Reitfontein in Mier, on the western border, and northward to Lohototu and the Lake. The extraordinary flow of the Molopo and Kuruman rivers last year has no doubt assisted in this exploitation of western territory, but the movement once begun may safely be looked on as likely to continue, in view of the favourable reports received of the nature of the country on either side of the Molopo.

In my report to your Honour for 1892-93 I ventured to assert that the chief requirement of the country was a reinforcement of real farmers,—men of some substance and capital,—owners of

something more than a waggou, a tent, and a few oxen.

The immigrant farmers whom we are now welcoming in this country are for the most part men of this stamp. Land in considerable blocks has been taken up not by syndicates and speculators, who seek to "sweat" the eventual occupier, but by individuals of capital and with intention to occupy. The most suitable land now left available for disposal consists of the various grants made on account of railway construction; and it is, I think, safe to assume that when any portion of it

is offered for sale, more purchasers of the class I have described will readily come forward.

I have, &c.

His Honour the Administrator, F. J. Newton,

Vryburg. Colonial Secretary and Receiver
General.

2. REPORT of the CROWN PROSECUTOR for 1894-5.

1. During the period embraced in this report there has been an almost complete immunity from serious crime. This satisfactory state of things is, in my opinion, attributable in no small measure to the stringent enforcement of the law prohibiting the supply of intoxicating liquor to natives.

2. No case of murder has been reported during the year, and

no trial for a capital offence has taken place.

3. Although Europeans are scattered over the country no outrage upon them has been reported, although they are usually

surrounded by natives in large numbers.

4. It is satisfactory to be in a position to report that cattle stealing, a crime rendered easy by the circumstances of the country, is on the decline. This is attributable in some measure to the breaking up of a gang of cattle thieves who carried on

their depredations in this and the neighbouring states.

5. The absence of any arrangements with the South African Republic for the mutual surrender of fugitive criminals is the cause of frequent miscarriages of justice and renders the administration of the criminal law peculiarly difficult. The subject was referred to by my predecessor Mr. Vintcent in his report for 1893-4 and it is now unnecessary to say more on the subject.

6. In view of the probable annexation of this territory to the Cape Colony at an early date, it seems unnecessary to suggest improvements in the law or in the manner of administering it.

7. Nothing has transpired in connection with the administration of justice in the Protectorate of sufficient importance to find a place in this report.

D. WARD, Crown Prosecutor.

3. REPORT of the SURVEYOR-GENERAL for the year 1894-5.

Trigonometrical Survey.

I regret having to report that nothing has been done, either to extend or connect the trigonometrical survey of British Bechunaland with the trigonometrical survey of Captain Morris, R.E., on the east towards Kimberley, and with that of Sir Thomas Maclear on the west towards Little Namaqualand. The cost of

this connection will be small as compared with the inestimable value thereof to the cause of commerce and science.

There are no satisfactory means of fixing accurately the positions of the different places in the Protectorate and Khama's country to the north, and of the twentieth degree of east longitude on the north-western boundary of the Protectorate, except by gradually extending this triangulation northwards, and the connection with the Cape geodetic surveys on the south is indispensable.

This connection will at all events give data for compiling an accurate map from the north of Natal, round by the Cape Colony,

to the north of British Bechuanaland.

During this year the accuracy of the definition of the twentieth degree of east longitude was called in question by the German authorities, and, owing to the fact of the trigonometrical survey by which it was defined being extended from a point on the Harts river, a long way off from Cape Town, the longitude of which point was obtained from astronomical observations of the transits of stars, combined with telegraphic signals at the times of such transits, observed by Lieutenant Laffan, R.E., and communicated to the Royal Observatory, Cape Town, it still remains to be seen within what degree of accuracy those results were obtained, and the connection above mentioned will form a check on the latter.

It is not, however, at all likely that the position of the twentieth meridian as laid down can differ more than one fourth of a mile from its true position, and, whatever happens, the present position should be finally agreed upon and accepted by Great Britain and Germany as the boundary between German South Africa and British Bechuanaland, because titles to the farms in the Mier country have been issued by this Government, on diagrams surveyed up to this line, and any alteration thereof would lead to endless confusion, litigation, and expense.

Almost throughout this territory, and, wherever possible, the private surveys of farms and of native reserves, if not referred to the same co-ordinate axis as the trigonometrical survey of the

country, have been connected therewith.

Mr. Surveyor Theal has defined the northern and western boundaries of blocks 4 and 2 of the first railway grant on the ground, and Mr. Surveyor Wessels is laying down the western boundaries of blocks 1 and 5 of the same grant. These surveys form a minor triangulation on the base of the Trigonometrical Survey

Compass Surveys.

Compass surveys defining the course of the Molopo river from Abiquas Puts (north-west,) for a distance of 150 miles, and on the north along the northern boundary of block C of the second railway grant for a distance of 90 miles have been carried out. The remaining undefined 50 miles of the course of

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

this river will, I hope, if water can be found sufficient to enable the surveyors to carry on the work, be laid down more accurately on the map during the ensuing winter; the want of water prevented Mr. Surveyor Windley from completing this work last winter.

Mr. Surveyor Theal laid down the course of the Kuruman river for a distance of 120 miles to the west of Tsenin, in the Lower Kuruman native reserve, and reported most favourably on the value and capabilities of the land along this river as far as he went.

Co-ordinate Surveys

During the year 58 private farms were surveyed and 14 Government farms, as well as six erven at Mafeking and eight erven at Upington.

Most of these farms were situated in the Divisions of Vryburg and Mafeking, 19 of them were surveyed in the Mier country near to and along the 20th meridian.

Grants of Land.

A schedule showing that grants of 82 farms and 83 erven, aggregating 736,143 morgen 348 square roods of land, were issued

during the year is appended.

Free grants of four erven for a recreation ground at Vryburg, as well as of a piece of ground two morgen in extent at Upington for a public cemetery, were approved, as well as a grant of 20 erven to the village management board at Vryburg, in return for the valuable water supply secured by them for the town of Vryburg, by purchasing a farm and making a large dam thereon at Raath's Pan, 5 miles to the west of the town.

Land Sales.

A schedule is appended showing the revenue from land sales. The net revenue under this head for the year is 5,290l. 16s. 5d., derived from the sale of 403,030 morgen of land, on which the amount of 26,129l. is still outstanding, the greater portion of which amount will remain outstanding at an annual interest of 5 per cent. in the form of quitrent, which will yield about 1,200l. per annum; 723l. 15s. 4d. were reimbursed for surveys paid for by Government at the time of survey, 152l. 10s. 6d. were collected for office fees, &c.

Three farms, out of 23 offered for sale, were sold by public auction at Upington on the 15th January last for 3,218l. 9s., aggregating 46,405 morgen, or an average price of about 1s. 5d. per morgen. No bid was made for the remaining 20 farms. The result of this sale as compared with that of the farms belonging to the first railway grant, situated at no great distance from Mafeking, and at which 116,600 morgen realised 20,230l., or an average of nearly 3s. 6d. per morgen, was very unsatisfactory, but I anticipate that the farms will find purchasers at a future sale.

15

Ten erven in Vryburg and 14 at Mafeking were sold during the year.

BRITISH BECHUANA-1894-5.

111

Comparison of Revenue from Land Sales for the Years 1893-94, 1894-95.

The revenue collected under the head of land sales shows an increase of 2,140*l.* 9s. 9*d.* on that of the year 1893-94. re-imbursements collected during the year 1893-94 exceed those collected during the current year by 3,026l. 15s., which is due to the large number of certificates of ownership issued by Government, on which the survey fees were paid to this Government by the Cape Colonial Government in that year.

Farms hypothecated to the Imperial Government for the old Stellaland Debt.

During the year the Lords of the Treasury, in return for the payment of the balance of the amount for which certain farms in this territory were mortgaged to the Imperial Government by this Government, viz., 1,838l., have surrendered the mortgage on these farms, viz., Algiers, Keerom, Ongeluk Spruit, Uitval, and Biesjes, Vlakte; of these Keerom, Ongeluk Spruit, and Uitval have been allotted to the Bechuanaland Railway Company, and Algiers and Biesjes Vlakte been retained as Crown reserves.

Native Locations.

A small reserve of 6,000 morgen was granted at Madeakham, with the consent of the Cape Government, who accepted the farm called "Chwabe" on the map adjoining blocks 4 and 2 of the first railway grant, in exchange for the land cut out of block No. 4 for the purpose of a reserve for the natives.

Titles for Native Reserves.

The question of titles to native reserves is receiving the consideration of Government.

Langeberg Native Reserve.

A slight extension of the Langeberg native reserve was made on the west, at the recommendation of the Commission appointed to enquire into the claims of the natives.

Lower Kuruman Reserve.

Some of the natives living along the Kuruman river in block 5 of the first railway grant have a just claim to the land they are living on, and a small reserve round the same; and I have recom-

mended that 10,000 morgen should be cut out of block No. 5 of the first railway grant, and added to the Lower Kuruman native reserve, and that the Cape Government should be offered 10,000 morgen along the Kuruman river west of block E of the second railway grant.

Second Railway Grant.

The Bechuanaland Railway Company have agreed to accept certain lands, in satisfaction of the second railway grant, as shown on the map accompanying this report, including 47 farms originally sold to the Bechuanaland Estates Syndicate, which have reverted to Government.

Dominicus Claim.

The land along the Orange river between the junction of the Molopo and Orange rivers and the 20th meridian is claimed for a distance of about nine miles north of that river by one Dominicus, whose claim has not yet been heard or decided upon by the Land Court,

Map of British Bechuanaland.

A copy of this map, with all available later information since it

was lithographed charted thereon, accompanies this report.*

This map was lithographed in the Surveyor-General's office, Cape Town, from information supplied by this Department, and by the courtesy of the Surveyor-General at Cape Town 100 copies were supplied to this office.

Schedule of Areas.

A schedule giving the extents of the divisions, as proclaimed, and also of their extents as now proposed by me, and marked on the map, as well as the Crown reserves, native reserves, commonages, Crown lands, private lands, &c., &c., is forwarded herewith. This return shows the total area of the country to be about 51,524.5 square miles, including 5060.7 squares estimated as the vacant Crown land in the district of Mier. From this return it will be seen that the Government still has for disposal 2,282 square miles of surveyed Crown land, and 15,983 square miles of unsurveyed Crown land. One square mile is equal to 302.38 morgen, and I should value the surveyed Crown land at 1s. per morgen or 34,516l. and the unsurveyed at 6d. per morgen or 82,567l, excluding the unsurveyed Crown land in the Mier district, the extent of which is estimated at 5,060.7 square miles, upon which I can put no value as yet, and the Covernment erven in this territory, 272 in number, I value at 4,20%.

BRITISH

BECHUANA-

1894-5.

Quit-rents.

The annual quit-rents collected during the current year, according to returns sent in to the Receiver-General, amounted to 6,043*l*., or 630*l*. in excess of the quit-rent payable in 1891 as stated in the report of the Surveyor-General prepared for his Excellency the Governor, dated 29th May 1891.

The quit-rents in the Mier district on the grants confirmed by the Land Court cannot be less than 400*l*. per annum, but I do not think that all the quit-rent payable by owners of farms in that district can have been collected this year, as only a small number of those farms have been surveyed as yet.

Water Supply.

The great drawback to the rapid development of the western portion of this territory is the very scanty supply of surface water. The veld is good for stock, and there is a greater immunity from the various deadly diseases, such as horse sickness, lung sickness, gall sickness, red water, and anthrax or melt sickness, in that part of the country, than in the more favoured portions of this territory, and sheep thrive better there, wherever water is

procurable for watering them.

A contract was entered into between the Government and a Mr. Cutler to dig or bore for water on vacant Crown lands. He started operations some months ago, on the Crown reserve, Algiers, but I have not ascertained that he has been successful as yet. If he fails, I should strongly urge on the Government to send working parties into the vacant Crown lands to the west during the rainy season to make small dams in suitable places, which will hold water for a few months during the year after the rains; this would considerably enhance the value of the land, as farmers are more likely to take up land if they find sufficient water available to keep themselves and their stock alive whilst they make more permanent provision of water, by sinking wells or making large dams.

Legislation.

During the year Proclamation No. 67, British Bechuanaland, of 1889, which only applied to land held by virtue of certificate of ownership, was repealed and its provisions amended by Proclamation No. 212, British Bechuanaland, of the 19th March 1895, so as to meet all cases of disputed beacons of land to be surveyed and granted.

Vryburg, 22nd May 1895. F. S. WATERMER, Surveyor-General.

RETURN of Amounts collected on account of Land Sales, &c., for the Financial Year 1894-5.

	Description of Land sold.	Area of	Grants.	Amount of Instalments	Amount of Instalments	Survey	0.00	Total Revenue	
Description of Plane Sola.		Morgen.	Square Roods.	paid.	outstanding.	Reimbursements.	Office Fees.	1894–5.	
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Vryburg:	Blocks of 24,000 morgen and up-								
	wards	272,225		2,696 3 9	16,013 10 3			_	
,,	Farm Ganna Laagte	3,999	309	13 10 0	540 0 0				
"	Erven	6	340	108 0 0	189 0 0	-			
,,	Miscellaneous receipts	-	-		4 4	308 14 0	80 17 3	3,207 5 0	
Lafeking:	Farm, Westwood Park	1,363	596	286 6 8	113 13 4				
"	Erven	2	75	210 0 0	405 0 0			_	
"	Miscellaneous receipts	-			-	74 14 6	17 3 0	588 4 2	
Luruman:	: Blocks of 24,000 morgen and								
	_ upwards	*59,000	0	442 10 0	3,982 10 0				
"	Erven	_	350	52 10 0	-				
"	Miscellaneous receipts	_				41 10 11	2 9 0	538 19 11	
	Aiscellaneous receipts	-	155		-	80 4 3	2 9 0	2 13 3	
dordonia.	Upington township erven	3	175	517 10 0				-	
"	One-fourth share of water erven -	75010		30 7 6	-			-	
"	Excess areas, river farms	17,942	399	523 18 6	1,662 2 6	-		-	
"	Excess areas, dry erven	8	220	34 11 0	326 18 0				
"	Farms	1 20,200	501	321 17 0	2,896 12 0	-		-	
"	Portion of Crown reserve	2,072	100	53 12 0	-	-			
"	Miscellaneous receipts	-	25			218 11 8	49 12 3	1,749 19 11	
	Totals	403,030	65	5,290 16 5	26,129 6 1	723 15 4	152 10 6	6,167 2 3	

^{*} Provisional sale only.

RETURN OF LAND GRANTS during the Financial Year 1894-5, for which Titles have been issued.

						Grants of Erven.			Grants of Farms.			Total No. of Grants and Area.		
Division.				No.	Morgen.	Square Roods.	No.	Morgen.	Square Roods.	No.	Morgen.	Square Roods.		
Vryburg					12	6	0				12	6	0	
Vrylarg	-	-	-	-	-		-	41	166,580	497	41	166,580	497	
Mafeking					1	4	300	-			1	4	300	
Mafeking	-	-		-	_		-	14	50,804	343	14	50,804	343	
Gordonia		-	-	-	61	133	160	_	-	-	61	133	160	
Gordonia	-		-	-	-		1	27	518,610	448	27	518,610	448	
Kuruman		-		-	8	-	400	-		-	8	4-10	400	
Taungs			1.	39	1	3	0	-		-	1	3	0	
	Totals		1		83	147	260	82	735,996	88	165	736,143	348	

Schedule showing extent of British Bechuanaland in square miles.

1. Divisions according to existing proclamation:

						Square miles
	Mafeking				-	3,733.5
	Vryburg		-	- 1	-	14,237.0
	Taungs		-		-	1,466.7
	Kuruman		-	-	-	16,655.0
	Gordonia,	including Mie	er	-	-	15,432.3
		Total				51,524.5
2.	Divisions ac	cording to ne	wly p	proposed b	ounda	aries:—
	Mafeking				-	3,733.5
	Vryburg		-		-	12,649.2
	Taungs		-		-	1,466.7
	Kuruman		_	-	-	14,862.4

Vryburg					12,649.2
Taungs					1,466.7
Kuruman					14,862.4
Gordonia,	including M	Lier	-	-	18,812.7
	Total	-	-	_	51,524.5

3.	Native reserves in British Bechuanaland	-	4,744.0
4.	Crown reserves and outspans -	-	225.1
5.	Commonages	-	215.1
6.	Surveyed Crown land	-	2,282.9
7.	Unsurveyed " " (exclusive of Mier)	-	10,922.3
8.	Unsurveyed,, ,, in Mier -	-	5,060.7
9.	All surveyed and unsurveyed private farms	-	16,074.4
10.	Surveyed portion of first railway grant	-	3,125.0
11.	Unsurveyed " " -	-	2,875.0
12.	Surveyed portion of second railway grant	-	1,005.0
13.	Unsurveyed,,,,,,	-	4,995.0
	Total area of British Bechuanaland	-	51,524.5

4. REPORT on the Post and Telegraph Department for the year 1894-5.

The operations of the Post and Telegraph Department have during the financial year 1894-5 continued to show the steady advance which was indicated in my last report, the revenue having been 11,535l. as compared with 8,390l., and the expenditure 12,432l. against 12,443l. in 1893-4.

The following comparison of the revenue and expenditure for the years 1889 to 1894 will be found to show that, whilst the maximum expenditure, i.e. 15,410%, was incurred in 1891-2, when the revenue was 8,710*l*., the maximum revenue, *i.e*, 11,535*l*., accrued in 1894-5, when the expenditure had been reduced to 12,432*l*., the deficit having in the intervening period been brought down, under the administration of this Department, from 7,483*l*. to 897*l*. per annum:—

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

117

			History					
Year.		Postal.				Expend- iture.	Deficit.	
	Colony.	Protect- orate.	Total.	Telegraph.	Total.			
1889-90 -	£ 1,366	£ 635	£ 2,001	£ 1,431	£. 3,432	£ 7,121	£ 3,689	
1890-91 -	2,204	1,412	3,616	2,537	6,153	9,658	3,505	
1891-92 -	3,090	3,014	6,104	2,606	8,710	15,410	6,700	
1892-93 -	2,641	2,231	4,872	2,491	7,363	14,846	7,483	
1893-94 -	3,519	1,510	5,029	3,361	8,390	12,443	4,053	
1894–95 -	6,394	874	7,268	4,267	11,535	12,432	897	

I confidently anticipate that the result of the current year's working will be to place the Department on a self-supporting basis, and that it may then be possible to introduce several much-needed reductions of tariff.

The details of the postal and telegraph revenue and expenditure for 1894-5, given below, will show that a large proportion of such revenue is derived from "transit dues" on mail matter and telegrams passing to and from the British South Africa Company's territories, whilst the principal item of expenditure remains that of 6,451l. 1s. 3d. in connection with the maintenance of the combined mail service between Mafeking and Macloutsie and between Palapye and Buluwayo.

Post and Telegraph Revenue, 1894-5.

Description.	Amount.	Total.		
Postal:		£ s. d.	£ s. d	
Stamps sold	-	4,203 0 1		
Unnaid postage	-	101 6 10		
Postage from other administrations	-	2,486 5 2		
Box rents	-	101 0 0		
Money order commissions -		314 9 6		
Miscellaneous	-	61 18 10		
	-		7,268 0 5	
'elegraph:				
Stamps attached to telegrams -	-	1,931 15 5		
Registered address fees-	-	8 8 0		
Transit charges	-	1,559 5 5		
Collections for maintenance -	-	757 5 11	A CONTRACTOR	
Miscellaneous	-	10 0 10		
			4,266 15 7	
Total	-		11,534 16 0	

Of the 7,268l. postal revenue, 873l. 16s. 4d. was collected in the Protectorate.

The "Miscellaneous" postal receipts include 55l. 4s. 6d. collected from the ex-Deputy Postmaster, Buluwayo, as the balance due to the previous administration.

Post and Telegraph Expenditure, 1894-5.

		Estimate.				D 0	
Heads of Service.	Original. Additional.		Total.	Expenditure.	Surplus.	Deficit.	
A. Personal emoluments -	£ 2,893	<u>£</u>	£ 2,893	£ s. d. 2,414 8 4	£ s. d. 478 11 8	£ s. d	
B. Horse allowances (linemen)	60	-	60	40 0 0	20 0 0	-	
Travelling expenses (linemen	130	1-16	130	58 15 10	71 4 2		
and inspectors). Travelling expenses (officers	75	5- 3	75	4 9 5	70 10 7		
on appointments, &c.) Maintenance (telegraph)	350		350	78 17 6	271 2 6		
Contingencies	430	350	780	756 11 0	23 9 0		
Administration	200	_	200	200 0 0	_	_	
Transit dues, &c	435	_	435	556 8 5		121 8	
Mails:						072-013-	
Vryburg-Kuruman -	500	- 5	500	425 0 0	75 0 0	-	
Kimberley-Vryburg -	816		816	510 0 0	306 0 0	_	
Delivery: Taungs, Vryburg	150	_	150	127 15 4	22 4 8	_	
Vryburg-Mafeking	1,000		1,000	592 10 11	407 9 1		
Mafeking-Palapye, Mac-	5,960	100	6,060	6,058 1 3	1 18 9		
loutsie. Macloutsie—Tati, Bulu-	250	163	413	393 0 0	20 0 0	_	
wayo. Minor contracts, &c.	120	80	200	198 0 10	1 19 2		
Keimoes-Upington, 1893-4	-	18	18	18 0 0	-		
Total	13,369	711	14,080	12,431 18 10	1,769 9 7	121 8 5	

Net surplus, 1,648l. 1s. 2d.

Mail Services.

Early in the present year it became necessary to give Messrs. Wirsing Brothers four months' notice of termination of their contract for the conveyance of mails between Mafeking, Palapye, Macloutsie, Tati, and Buluwayo, a proportion of the expense of which service was borne by the British South Africa Company, and negotiations were shortly afterwards entered into between the Bechuanaland Post Office, the British South Africa Company, and Messrs. H. J. & C. H. Zeederberg for the latter firm to take up the service from the 1st of May. The result of these negotiations was the establishment on the date mentioned of a mail service twice, instead of once, a week between Mafeking and Buluwayo, at a diminished expense as far as the Bechuanaland exchequer was concerned, the contract limit of weight being at

23

the same time increased from 1,500 lbs. to 2,000 lbs., and the journey performed in six days as against 73 days under the former contract.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

119

The rapid growth of correspondence for the north caused the mails during the greater part of 1894 to be in excess of the contract limit of weight, and large sums had in consequence to be paid to the contractors in terms of their bond, the share paid by British Bechuanaland in respect of such excess mails amounting to over 7001. Under the terms of the new contract, 4,000 lbs. weight of mail matter can be forwarded weekly before any liability for excess weight is incurred, and the rate per lb. to be paid has also been reduced.

Minor Posts.

Petitions have been received from several of the more populous villages in Bechuanaland for the establishment of postal communication with the business centres; amongst the villages referred to may be mentioned Genesa, Morokweng, Mosita, Maritsani, and Rietfontein; but of these it has up to the present only been found possible to grant the desired facilities to Mosita which place has since the 1st of April last enjoyed a weekly post to and from Setlagoli.

Postal Traffic.

The number of letters, post cards, newspapers, book packets, parcels, and registered articles transmitted through the post during the year shows a very satisfactory increase upon the figures for 1893-4, as will be seen from the schedule given below.

26.72.26.44.2	Number.	Number.	Value.
Mail Matter.	1893-4.	1894–5.	1894-5.
Letters :—			£
For delivery in Bechuanaland at 2d.	35,139	44,603	371
For Protectorate at 4d	19,286	22,828	380
For Cape Colony, Natal, Orange			
Free State and South African			
Republic at 2d	124,917	128,128	1,067
For Mashonaland at 4d	15,483	13,221	220
For United Kingdom at 4d. and			AND THE PERSON
For eign countries at $4\frac{1}{2}d$.	25,974	24,492	433
Post cards at 1d	4,407	6,851	} 40
ot 11d	1,092	1,989	3
Newspapers	39,650	36,283	75
Book packets and samples	16,562	18,447	153
Parcels	2,912	2,730	91
Registration fees	7,319	7,150	238
Total	292,741	306,722	3,068

Money Orders.

The transactions under this head also indicate a most satisfactory expansion of business, both as regards the number and the amount of money orders issued and paid in British Bechuanaland. An exchange of money orders with Mashonaland was established, through the intermediary of the accounting system of the Cape Colony on the 1st of January 1895, and will doubtless, at a later date, afford much convenience to the public. Particulars of the countries of issue and payment of all money orders drawn in or upon British Bechuanaland will be found below:—

Money Orders Issued in Bechuanaland during the year ended 31st March 1895.

Payable in-	Number.	Amount.			
British Bechuanaland		-	360	£ s. 1,016 13	d.
Cape Colony	-	-	3,485	8,902	1 3
Orange Free State	-	-	57	168 19	2 10
South African Republic	-	-	262	673 13	5 5
United Kingdom and foreign countries		-	597	2,223	1 3
Mashonaland	`-	-	3	11 9	9
Totals	5	-	4,764	12,995 14	1 3

Money Orders Paid in Bechuanaland during the year ended 31st March 1895.

Issued in—	Issued in—			Amount.		
British Bechuanaland	•	-	359	£ s. d. 1,066 17 7		
Cape Colony	2	-	648	1,914 10 2		
Orange Free State	-	-	91	330 3 4		
South African Republic		-	238	961 0 1		
United Kingdom and foreign countries	-	-	143	593 7 10		
Mashonaland		-	15	62 8 1		
Total		-	1,494	4,928 7 1		

Savings Bank.

The extension of the Cape Colony Savings Bank system to all money order offices in Bechuanaland, as referred to in my last report, has evidently met a public requirement.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

Telegraphs.

The Bechuanaland telegraph system consists of 169 miles 45 chains of line and 411 miles 15 chains of wire.

I am happy to be able to state that during the year, as in the previous twelve months, there have been no interruptions or delays of any moment, and the service has been regularly maintained.

The work which was proceeding when my last report was made, viz., the transfer of the main telegraph line from the road to the railway, and which was then reported as being well in hand, was satisfactorily completed on the 9th of July at a cost slightly under the estimate. By this work avoidance of two distinct routes and the looked for advantages of economical and efficient maintenance have been secured, besides which, as previously pointed out, the Bechuanaland Government secures an additional revenue of 253l. per annum for the maintenance of the railway wire now placed upon its poles.

During the year one office (Setlagoli) was closed, and one (Maribogo) opened. The number of offices open for traffic thus

remains five.

The telegraph traffic returns show a marked increase in the number of messages and words transmitted over the Bechuanaland lines, but, as will be seen from the following statement, a large proportion of the traffic is practically performed gratuitously on behalf of the various departments of Government and in connection with the working of the Railway:—

The value of the traffic was as follows:-

The value of the traine was as lonows:			
	£	s.	d.
Ordinary and press telegrams	1,939	2	7
Free traffic:—			
Imperial Government £ s. d.			
telegrams 519 17 0			
Colonial Government			
telegrams 833 19 3			
Railway service telegrams 1,001 9 4			
	2,355	5	7
	4,294	8	2
			-

The value of the free work performed by the Post and Telegraph Department was as follows:—

Postage value of Value of official	official telegran	corre ns	sponder -		436 2,355		d. 0 7	
	Total	-	-	-	2,791	13	7	

General.

In concluding my report I wish to bring to the notice of the Government the generally excellent manner in which the work of both the postal and telegraph branches has been performed by the staff. As will be seen from the figures given, the work has increased in all branches, the revenue having correspondingly expanded. This additional work has entailed heavier duties on all concerned, and these duties have been cheerfully performed with but little extra assistance.

General Post Office, Capetown, May 10, 1895. S. R. French, Postmaster-General, British Bechuanaland

5. REPORT of the COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS.

SIR, Mafeking, June 6, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report for the year ending 31st March last:—

IMPORTS.

During the last six years the declared value (at port of shipment) of dutiable goods imported into and through this territory was as follows:—

		Fo	r consumption in	The world by	
Financial y	ear.	British Bechuanaland.	The Bechuanaland Protectorate.	Rhodesia viá Bechuanaland.	Total
		£	£	£	£ 62,213
1889-90	-				
1890-91	-	-	-	-	132,607
1891–92	-	91,812	18,086	36,409	146,307
1892-93		83,843	15,107	8,909	107,859
1893-94	-	79,282	26,967	23,607	126,856
1894-95		106,878	45,368	79,079	231,325

In addition to the above, 29,513 packages of goods, valued at 46,726l., were conveyed last year, under rebate of Customs duty and railage, through this territory for the western districts of

the South African Republic.

The increase of imports for consumption in the Crown Colony, viz., 27,596l., or 35 per cent. above the imports of the preceding year, is due to the greater number of occupied farms, chiefly in the Vryburg division, and also to the growth of traffic through Bechuanaland to the British South Africa Company's territories. An appreciable proportion of the large amount earned annually by carriers is expended by them upon imported provisions, clothing, waggon-canvas, tarpaulins, and other necessaries. The conservation of the Bechuanaland trade-route thus assists in swelling the volume of taxable goods imported for Union consumption as well as contributing to the prosperity of waggonmakers and agriculturists in the Cape Colony and of cattle farmers in this territory. No less than 564 vehicles, principally waggons, were imported by rail during 1894, many of which were sold to natives residing at Kanye and Mochuli and in the Marico From the annual report of the General Manager of Railways for 1894 it also appears that 95 tons of Cape wine and 214 tons of Cape spirits were imported into this territory during last year, but this large quantity would be for consumption in the western districts of the Transvaal as well as in Bechuanaland and Rhodesia.

Business transacted in the Protectorate increases rapidly, as is evinced by the returns for the last three years, the entries for Union consumption last year being 18,401l., or 68 per cent. in excess of the imports during the preceding year. Not only were the crops of maize and millet exceedingly good, but the natives of the Southern Protectorate secured a considerable proportion of the carrying trade between Mafeking and Palapye, whilst those of the Northern Protectorate towards the end of the year conveyed large quantities of merchandize from the latter place to Buluwayo.

The progress made by the Crown Colony and the Protectorate, judging from a trade point of view, was but small, however, as compared with the advance of Rhodesia. In 1892-3 the exports thither through Bechuanaland were evidently below normal. In 1893-4 there was an increase of 131 per cent.; but during the year ended 31st March last there was a yet further increase of 58,472l., or 284 per cent. above the value during 1893-4. These figures testify to the rapidity with which a population is being attracted thither, and also to the confidence which is felt in the future of those territories by the merchants engaged in business there. No mining machinery is comprised in the above amount, but large indents are in course of execution. This class of imports being duty-free is excluded from the statements of goods rebated. It is estimated by Mr. S. Weil, who has extensive business relations with Rhodesia, that about two-thirds of the supplies for northern Mashonaland are imported via Beira. The

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

remaining one-third of the northern, and most of the southern, trade is probably divided about equally between the Transvaal and Bechuanaland routes. From the records of this Department it appears that 12,778 packages of rebated goods, valued at 17,436*l.*, passed through Mafeking last year for Mashonaland; whilst 48,627 packages, valued at 61,643*l.*, were rebated to Matebeleland through Bechuanaland. Probably not less than 30,000*l.* worth of goods was imported into Matebeleland through the Transvaal.

The advantages of the Bechuanaland route have been somewhat handicapped by the fact of the tariff charged by the Cape Government Railway Department being highly in favour of the Transvaal route; but the railway rates are now being revised with a view to meeting the ground of complaint submitted by the merchants of this territory. During some portions of last year the time occupied on the journey from Pretoria to Buluwayo was less than that to Vryburg, the latter being sometimes as much as four months. The additional 100 miles of railway in this territory and the new arrangements for transport, whereby goods are now conveyed by one team of oxen from Mafeking to Palapye and are there transferred to a waggon with a fresh span for Buluwayo, has now reduced the journey from the terminus of the Bechuanaland Railway to the latter place, in ordinary weather, to about six weeks. Owing to the quality of the grass on the Bechuanaland route and to the number of native carriers residing within reasonable distances, the rates of transport from Mafeking to Buluwayo have frequently been as low as 10s. per 100 lbs. for some months past, and during the year ending 30th September next will probably not have exceeded an average of 13s. per Given equitable railway rates, therefore, there seems every probability that the trade route to the north through this territory will continue to grow in favour.

The following is a return of goods received at Vryburg station during the last three financial years and at Mafeking station from 1st October 1894 to 31st March 1895:—

	1892–3.	1893–4.	1894-5.
Total weight received	lbs. 12,611,596	lbs. 38,038,384	lbs. 34,814,050
Waggon loads cleared at local Custom	No.	No. 1,146	No.
houses	847		2,067
Weight of goods cleared through	lbs.	lbs.	lbs. 15,091,790
Customs offices at railway stations	6,220,497	8,373,329	

The weight of goods for consumption in this territory is included in the total received but not in the total cleared.

A record has been kept of the weight sent to each of the principal places north of Mafeking last year in case any return of

the kind should be required in connection with proposed railway extensions.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

EXPORTS.

I have once more to acknowledge my indebtedness to the General Manager of Railways for furnishing returns showing the weight of goods removed by rail from Bechuanaland, which I have summarised as follows:-

Destination and Classification.	Financial Year 1892-3.	Financial Year 1893-4.	Financial Year 1894-5.
Cape Colony :—	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
General merchandize -	317,028	418,974	569,804
Wool and mohair -	558,912	487,797	386,195
Grain and cereals	7,331,313	1,135,457	3,725,930
Flour, meal, and bran - Agricultural produce not	192,954	18,024	316,741
otherwise specified -	231,019	489,471	381,881
Timber and firewood -	34,890,168	32,795,445	25,369,555
Minerals and gravel -	517,981	91,154	54,912
Skins, hides, horns, and ivory	680,497	578,384	710,438
Orange Free State:—			
General merchandize -	22,250	5,872	9,604
Agricultural produce -			143
Skins and horns			262
South African Republic:—			
General merchandize -	3,149	9,681	5,444
Grain and cereals	433	Stiller - In a second	_
Agricultural produce -			1,453
Total	44,745,704	36,030,259	31,532,362

The steady decrease in the quantity of wool and mohair exported annually was explained in my last report. It will be observed that during 1894-5 the weight of these two items was 100,000lbs. less than during the preceding year. Owing to the greater portion of this class of export coming from the western districts of the Transvaal the decrease does not imply any corresponding loss to Bechuanaland farmers. As a matter of fact, whilst upon some farms sheep do not thrive at present, there are others from which the returns begin to be satisfactory, and I find that 7,077 sheep were brought into Bechuanaland by railway during 1894. Angora goats are also being tried and do well; the export of Bechuanaland mohair is therefore increasing, and in the course of a few years may become an important item.

The increase of 1,600,000lbs in the weight of grain and cereals exported by rail last year as compared with the weight of the preceding year indicates a much better crop of maize and millet

and much less damage by locusts.

There have been larger sales to post-contractors and considerable quantities have been sent to Buluwayo, so it is probable that the actual surplus from last season was quite equal to that of 1892, when upwards of 3,665 tons were exported by railway.

The comparatively high prices paid by storekeepers for cereals in the southern portion of the Crown Colony affect the purchasing rates in other parts and enable the producers, who are chiefly natives, to procure what they want without cultivating half the

ground which they might do otherwise.

These high rates frequently prevent a profitable sale at Kimberley, and when the Transvaal Customs duty is added to them they prohibit the export of maize to Johannesburg. The rates in the eastern districts of the Transvaal are affected by the opening of the railway from Delagoa Bay, through which port Mozambique products are admitted to the Transvaal free of

Customs duty.

The export under the heading of "flour, meal, and bran" can be little else but mealie-meal. Maize is ground in this territory for the Kimberley market, but there is not nearly sufficient wheat grown here to supply local wants. Not only are large quantities of wheat sent by Transvaal farmers to be ground into meal in Bechuanaland mills for local consumption and for export to Rhodesia, but one merchant in Mafeking imports from the Cape Colony for his northern branches between three and four thousand bags of wheaten-meal annually. In addition to this about 140,000 lbs. weight of Australian flour passed through Bechuanaland last year to Rhodesia under rebate of Customs

duty.

There has been a decrease of 100,000 lbs. under the heading of "agricultural produce not otherwise specified" exported by rail as compared with the preceding year, although the quantity is greater than in either 1891-2 or 1892-3. I understand that the output of the Bechuanaland Salt Company at Groot Chwaing is comparatively large. If, as appears probable, salt exported hence in bags is classified as "Agricultural produce" the decrease under that heading is accounted for by the considerable quantities of salt which are exported hence to Johannesburg by ox-waggon instead of being sent to the Cape Colony by railway. The export of oat hay by rail is increasing. The export of fresh butter from Bechuanaland to the Cape Colony is growing in importance, and the Railway Department during the summer months runs a special car for dairy produce twice a week. secretary of the Vryburg Chamber of Commerce has kindly ascertained for me that during last winter six local firms despatched per rail 8,106 lbs. weight of butter, whilst during the half year ended 31st March last their total amounted to 18,256 lbs.

The price paid to farmers is stated to average from 9d. to 10d.

per lb. There; were 1,255 head of cattle despatched by rail from Vryburg and Taungs last year, but there is no record of the number removed by road. At least 6,000 head of cattle are said to have been exported from the Protectorate to various places for draught and slaughter purposes.

It is satisfactory to notice that the item "Timber and fire-wood" for last year is again smaller than in the preceding year.

The total weight of "skins, hides, horns, and ivory" exported last year from Bechuanaland was greater than during either of the two preceding years. Exporters are not required by law to furnish any statistics to this Department, but, through the courtesy of the Mafeking merchants, I gather that not less than the following values were exported last year from this town, the articles having principally come from the Protectorate: hides, 3,000l.; ox-horns for manufacturing purposes, antelope horns and sundry products of the chase, 2,500l., karosses and single skins, 2,800l. (at least one-fifth sent to Johannesburg and a few to Bloemfontein); ivory 1,776l.; and ostrich feathers, 1,100l.

There is no information in this Department respecting any of

the exports from Gordonia or Kuruman.

Customs Duties collected.

The following is a statement of cash receipts during the past year :-From the Cape Colony, being three-fourths of d. full duty upon goods removed between 1st January and 31st December 1894 for consumption in British Bechuanaland 12,820 0 10 for Ditto ditto consumption in the Protectorate 2,142 15 3 14,962 16 1 From the Orange Free State, being threefourths of full duty upon goods entered for removal to British Bechuanaland 8 0 Collected at Vryburg: duty upon first importation 21 16 9 Collected at various stations in the Protectorate upon first importation 846 12 Collected at Mafeking upon first importation and upon delivery from bond: share of Bechuanaland (less a refund) 5,861 1 9 Total revenue receipts 21,704 14 10 The following amounts due to the Cape Government have been treated as deposits: Collected at Mafeking; on goods entered from bond for Union consumption, one-fourth of full duty - 1,902 5 10 On goods entered from bond for export, the whole of duty less rebate 1,511 11 Carried forward - 3,413 17 6 21,704 14 10

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5. British Bechuana-LAND, 1894-5.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward -	3,413	17	6	21,704	14	10
Share of rebate recovered						
upon goods entered for						
export but subsequently						
consumed in the Customs	la la san	The same	diff			
Union	3	4	9			
Collected at Vryburg and						
Mafeking on packets de-						
tained by the Post Office						
for Customs examina-						
tion, one-fourth of full	10	,	H			
duty	10	1	1			

Total deposits -

3,427 3 10

The gross receipts for 1894-5 being £25,131 18 8

as compared with 13,225l. 7s. 2d. for 1891-2, 14,697l. 8s. 8d. for 1892-3 and 18,589l. 13s. 6d. for 1893-4. The Protectorate share of the above revenue is estimated at 6,468l. 4s. 8d., the Crown Colony share being 15,236l. 10s. 2d.

Bonded Warehouses.

During the last two years the bonded warehouses in Mafeking have been of great assistance to local merchants in competing for northern trade, as is evident from the following return:—

	18	893–4.	18	394–5.
	No. of Packages.	Oversea Valuation.	No. of Packages.	Oversea Valuation.
		£ s. d.	Constant de	£ s. d.
Balances in hand on 1st	2,478	3,502 18 1	2,463	4,555 12 8
April. Received during year	13,582	28,267 15 1	35,082	61,181 5 7
Making totals of -	16,060	31,770 13 2	37,545	65,736 18 3
Delivered during year -	13,597	27,215 0 6	23,179	57,760 17 4
Balances in hand on 31st March.	2,463	4,555 12 8	4,356	7,976 0 11

In connection with the collection of Customs duty there were passed last year 2,850 bills of entry and 251 bonds. These bear 6d. and 2s. 6d. stamps respectively.

The Colonial Secretary, Vryburg. ERNEST E. BAXTER, Collector of Customs.

BRITISH

129

6. REPORT of INSPECTOR OF NATIVE RESERVES.

Vryburg, May 1, 1895.

LAND.
1894-5.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Honour the Administrator, that, with regard to the payment of the hut tax during the past year, I consider the collection has

been most satisfactory.

Little or no trouble has been experienced in the collection of same, with the exception of a misunderstanding between the Collector of Hut Tax and the Chief Toto in the Langberg, which was satisfactorily settled on the arrival of a patrol of the Bechuanaland Border Police in the neighbourhood.

Attached is a return* of the monthly collections during the past year, amounting to 5,282l., which shows an improvement of

1,3411. 10s. on the previous year's collection.

Feeling.

The natives generally appear satisfied throughout the territory, although numbers are leaving yearly for Maobeloe, Lihututu, and other places in the Protectorate, presumably for the purpose of escaping the hut and wheel tax, but I hold that they leave really in order to obtain free running for their stock.

Health.

I notice that syphilis is on the increase among the Bechuana, otherwise the general health is good.

Grain.

Last season's crop proved a complete failure, and I fear that this season's will produce next to nothing, owing, firstly, to the severe drought throughout the territory, which did not break until February last, secondly, to the ravages of locusts.

In conclusion, I must express my sincere thanks to the officers of this Department for the energy and willingness displayed by them in the performance of their duties, and trust that their services may be duly appreciated by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

The Colonial Secretary, Vryburg. C. St. QUINTIN,
Inspector of Native Reserves.

^{*} Not printed.

7. REPORT of the CIVIL COMMISSIONER and RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, Vryburg, for the Year ended 31st March 1895.

The progress of the division has been steadily maintained during the past year. The occupation, to the west, of a number of farms principally by farmers from the South African Republic and the Orange Free State, alluded to in my former report, has been continued. This portion of country, which is on the confines of the Kalahari Desert, was formerly considered unsuitable for farming, but it is now found to be good for cattle, and it appears there is not the difficulty in obtaining water which was anticipated by some people. The natives, however, living on the locations in this vicinity view the occupation of the country by white men with aversion, though the locations are, I believe, ample for their requirements. Some little friction has consequently arisen between them, which time will probably remove.

It is to be hoped that the land owned by the Cape Colonial Government and other companies in this part of the country will shortly be thrown open for occupation, as this would undoubtedly tend greatly to the prosperity of the country, and the increase of revenue. There has also been a considerable general increase in the farming population and the quantity of stock, and good farms can now only be obtained at prices considerably higher than formerly. There has been a good deal of disease amongst cattle; lung-sickness especially has been prevalent all over the division, and it is difficult to check the spread of this disease for the

following reasons, viz .:-

I. The great extent of the country.

II. The number of oxen, employed in the transport of wood,

travelling from farm to farm.

111. The number of native locations which are frequently affected. It is very difficult to get natives to carry out the law with regard to reporting disease and isolation, and, as a great number of them are now employed in the wood traffic, their cattle spread the disease.

IV. The number of cattle brought into and through the division

from the north and adjoining divisions.

I believe fencing to be the only efficacious means of checking this disease.

"Gall sickness," "Spann sickness," &c., have also been more than usually prevalent in some localities. Hitherto cattle have been very free from these diseases, and it will be a point of great interest to observe, as the country is filled up, whether this immunity has arisen from the inherent healthiness of the country or from the small quantity of stock formerly kept here. There can, however, be no doubt that certain portions of the division are much healthier than others.

There has been a fair increase in the quantity of sheep and goats, and it appears that when properly looked after they do well. In many cases, however farmers have only a small number, and

allow them to range so much that there is no chance of the grass being kept short, which is essential to their well doing.

Horse sickness has been less prevalent than usual this season.

The quantity of land under cultivation has been considerably increased, and it seems to be recognized that this division is more suited for agriculture than was formerly thought. Unfortunately the rains were late, so that the mealie crop will be small, and the natives will be badly off. It is to be desired that encouragement should be given to the natives to grow some crops, such as beans, lentils, &c., which do not take so long to grow as Kafir corn, mealies, and pumpkins. These and Kafir beans, which also take a long time to mature, are all the natives cultivate at present, and the crops depend on getting early rains.

There have been locusts in most parts of the division, but they have not done much damage.

The revenue of the division has considerably increased during the past year.

The wood-cutting alluded to in my former reports still continues with unabated vigour, and from information received I estimate that 370 loads, averaging about $3\frac{1}{2}$ tons, are being forwarded to Kimberley every month.

The revenue of the Divisional Council having been greatly augmented by the increase in the assessment roll, and the proceeds of the wheel tax, a considerable expenditure has been incurred in repairing roads. The members were, however, unable to resist the appeals of farmers to attempt to repair a number of roads considerably longer than they should, in my opinion, have undertaken, and it is to be feared that the benefits derived will not be so permanent as they would have been had they taken less in hand at once.

The Board of Management have spent a fair amount in the improvement of the town, and the water-scheme has proved a great success. At a very small cost an ample supply of water is now available for gardening and other purposes, and, in consequence, vegetables are abundant, and the appearance of the town rapidly improving.

The health of the inhabitants both in town and country has been generally good.

There has been little crime in the town, and hardly any in the district.

Farmers complain as usual of the scarcity of servants, but this is an evil not confined to this part of the country, and my observations lead me to the conclusion that farmers who keep a sufficient number of servants, who treat them well, and pay them their wages when due, seldom are in want.

The following statistics are attached :-

- I. Average rate of wages for labour.
- II. Average prices of various articles of use and consumption.

BRITISH
BECHUANALAND.
1894-5.

- III. Return of rainfall for the past four years, and highest and lowest temperature during last year.
- IV. Comparative statement of revenue under the principal heads for the last two financial years.

The public buildings belonging to my department, consisting of public offices, gaol, and lock-up, are in good repair.

Central Gaol.—The health of the prisoners has been good, and there have been no deaths during the year. The average daily cost of each prisoner's rations, including fuel, is a trifle over 7d. The system inaugurated during the year of paying good conduct convicts a small amount for their work will no doubt be an encouragement to them to work well, and will prevent them being discharged without any means of subsistence.

There is still a little prospecting going on for gold and diamonds, and good coal indications are said to have been found. I quite believe that gold and diamonds are to be found in the district, but am not as yet prepared to express an opinion as to their existence in payable quantities.

R. TILLARD,
Civil Commissioner and Resident
Magistrate.

VRYBURG, BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

I .- Average Rate of Wages for Labour.

Descripti	escription of Labour.			Per Annum.	Per Diem.
Predial	-			6l. to 12l. with food.	
Domestic	•	1	-	12 <i>l</i> . to 18 <i>l</i> . with food.	
Trades -	-	-	-	_	10s. to 15s.

Labour, both predial and domestic, is almost entirely native.

There is no opening for immigrant labourers in this district; intending tarmers with a moderate amount of capital might do well. The district is well adapted for cattle farming.

R. TILLARD, Civil Commissioner.

II.—Average Prices of Various Articles of Use and Consumption, for the Year ended 31st March 1895.

Article	e .	Average Price.	In April, 1894.	In July, 1894.	In October, 1894.	In January, 1895.
Flour, wheaten	- per lb.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d
Wheat	- per 100 lbs.	0 7 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	0 7 0	0 7 0
Bread, wheaten	- per lb.	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4
Meal, Boer	- per 100 lbs.	0 12 6	0 12 6	0 12 6	0 12 6	0 12 6
Meal, mealie -	- do.	0 8 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 8 6	0 8 6
Cattle, horned, slaughter -	- each	6 0 6	5 0 0	6 0 0	8 0 0	5 0 0
Cows	. "	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0
Horses	· "	10 0 0	10 0 0	12 10 0	10 0 0	10 0 0
Sheep	- "	0 15 0	0 15 0	0 15 0	0 15 0	0 15 0
Goats	. 29	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0
Pigs	- "	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
Milk	- per bottle	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 6	0 0 4	0 0 4
Butter, fresh -	- per lb.	0 1 6	0 1 0	0 2 6	0 1 3	0 1 0
" salt -	- "	0 0 9	0 0 9	0 1 0	0 0 9	0 0 9
Cheese, English	• "	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 1 6
Beef	- "	0 0 5	0 0 5	0 0 5	0 0 5	0 0 5
Mutton	- "	0 0 6	0 0 6	0 0 6	0 0 6	0 0 6
Pork	• "	0 0 7	0 0 7	0 0 7	0 0 7	0 0 7
Coffee	- "	0 1 9	0 1 9	0 1 9	0 1 9	0 1 9
Rice	- "	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4
Tea	- "	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 2 6
Sugar	. "	0 0 5	0 0 5	0 0 5	0 0 5	0 0 5
Salt, Colonial -	- "	0 0 01	$0 0 0^{\frac{1}{2}}$	0 0 01	0 0 01/2	0 0 0
Wine, Cape -	- per bottle	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 6	0 2 0
Brandy, Cape -	• "	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 1 6
Beer, English -	- "	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 2 6
Tobacco, Colonial	- per lb.	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 1 6
Potatoes	per 100 lbs.	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 6 0	0 10 0	0 10 0

R. TILLARD, Civil Commissioner. British Bechuana-Land. 1894-5.

III.—Revenue.

Division of Vryburg, British Bechuanaland, 1893-4, 1894-5.

He	ad of Reve	enue.			1893–4.	1894–5.
					£	£
General licences	and blank s	stamps,	not ind	clud-	2,830	2,953
ing wheel tax		-	- 1	-		
Transfer duty	- 3	-	-	-	2,140	3,800
Judicial fines -		12	-	-	375	211
Survey receipts		-		-	172	370
Quit-rent -		-	-	-	5,534	4,119
Land sales -		-		- X	*2,140	*4482
Succession duty		-		-	53	133
Customs duty-		-	-	-	25	20
Auction duty -		_		-	176	180
Rent other than	quit-rent	-	-	-	41	36
				_		
	Total	4-		-	11,486	16,304

^{*} This includes amounts received on account of sales in other districts and deposits which are liable to be withdrawn.

R. TILLARD, Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

IV.—Return of Rainfall taken at Vryburg, British Bechuanaland, during the Years ending 31st March 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895.

Month.		Year ended March 31, 1892.	Year ended March 31, 1893.	Year ended March 31, 1894.	Year ended March 31, 1895.
April -		Ins. 1.88	Ins. 1·33	Ins. 1.01	Ins. •18
May -	-	•79	Nil	Nil	2.19
June -	-	1.11	.38	•49	•25
July -		Nil	Nil	.30	Nil
August	-	•34	•23	Nil	1.61
September	-	Nil	•70	Nil	.06
October	-	•69	1.10	1.09	.98
November	-	2.35	1.07	1.71	•95
December	-	3.91	1.31	5.50	3.97
January	-	8.59	10.24	6.85	4.74
February		6.59	3.97	7.46	1.32
March	-	4.08	1.70	3.96	5 · 28
		30.03	21.93	28.37	21.53

Return of the Highest and Lowest Temperatures during the Year ended 31st March 1895.

	Month.			Maximum.	Minimum.
April -			-	89	38
May -		-	-	82	24
June -		-	-	78	24
July -	-	-	-	81	20
August -	-	-	-	83	24
September			-	93	35
October	-		-	102	35
November	ì.		-	105	42
December		-	-	108	51
January	-		-	104	49
February		-	-	101	54
March -	-		-	97	53

The highest temperature during day succeeding the night showing the lowest was 65°, being a variation of 45°.

R. TILLARD, Civil Commissioner.

8. ANNUAL REPORT OF CIVIL COMMISSIONER, Mafeking, 1894-5.

Mafeking, May 7, 1895. SIR, I HAVE the honour to report that the past year, like the preceding, has mainly been one of prosperity and advancement.

The great event of the year, and the one to which most progress is due, is the extension of the railway line from Vryburg to Mafeking. The opening ceremony was performed by his Honour the Administrator, Sir Sidney Shippard K.C.M.G. in the presence of the Honourable J. H. Laing, the Commissioner of Crown Lands and Public Works of the Cape Colony, and numerous representative men from all parts of South Africa.

The inhabitants did their best to celebrate the occasion and entertain their visitors. The advantages of the railway are seen in the increased facility of communication with other parts of South Africa, quicker transmissions of posts, a very large increase in the transport trade to the northern territories, and the establishment of several forwarding agencies, all of which mean greater prosperity to the town.

British Bechuana-Land. 1894-5. The station is most conveniently situated for the needs of the town; but the increased trade brings into greater prominence the disadvantages of the non-connection of the telegraph line with the Transvaal system a Malmani, situated only 18 miles from Mafeking; and the want of a postal service to Johannesburg viâ Zeerust.

A superior line of bi-weekly coaches to Buluwayo will shortly be started, and still farther enhance the attractions of this route to the north, as they will perform the journey in five and a half days stopping each night and enabling the passengers to rest.

The summer season was very hot, and the rains fell too late to allow the natives to plough and sow; in consequence, there are practically no crops this season. The prices of mealies and Kafir corn are rising, and, as the natives are an improvident race, in spite of the former good seasons, they have no provisions stored, so there is every probability of their suffering privation. To avoid this, numbers of men are going abroad seeking employment in the Kimberley and Johannesburg mines.

During the year, 2,200 passes have been issued to natives.

The rainfall for the year is only 26.23 inches (as compared with larger amounts in former years), nevertheless the inhabitants of Mafeking have been better off for water than formerly, as on the 4th July 1894, the works of the Mafeking Water Syndicate were formally opened by his Honour the Administrator, Sir Sidney Shippard, K.C.M.G. A complete system of pipes has been aid throughout the town, all houses are thus conveniently supplied with water. This abundance has given a great impetus to gardening, which has resulted in the arrangement of an Horticultural show to be held on April the 17th, it is hoped to be the forerunner of an annual show. The water syndicate has recently been floated into a company with a capital of 15,000l.

The Village Management Board have expended a good sum of money in tree planting, which will, in a few years, tend greatly towards beautifying the town. The gaol reserve has been surrounded with a substantial fence, and a double row of trees planted inside. These trees have, however, suffered greatly from the ravages of white ants. Strenuous efforts have been made by the Village Management Board to eradicate this pest, by offering the reward of one shilling and sixpence for every "Queen Ant" found in the township. Nearly 200 "queens" were destroyed by this means, and the termites, though not totally exterminated, are greatly reduced in numbers and destructiveness.

The new wheel tax came into operation on April 1st 1894; it has brought in a fair amount of revenue, which has been judiciously expended in repairing the roads and the drifts of the district.

Prospecting for diamonds has been vigorously carried on, good indications being found in the vicinity of the township. Prospecting licences have been taken out, and 530 people have deposited half-a-crown a piece, and entered their names under these licences

for claims. Up to the present time no diamonds have been discovered.

It is much to be regretted that lung-sickness has been reported in various parts of the district during the year; but by enforcing strict isolation of diseased cattle, and by voluntary inoculation of others, the dreaded disease has been kept in check. The infection has generally been traced to the advent of cattle from the Protectorate.

In the earlier part of the year an outbreak of small-pox occurred in the town, attacking chiefly the poorer class of Europeans, living in insanitary dwellings. Prompt measures were taken to arrest the spread of the disease by removing all the patients to the Lazaretto, which was specially erected on the opposite bank of the river, some distance from the town. A medical officer was provided to take charge of the Lazaretto; 33 cases were treated, three of which proved fatal. Much anxiety was felt at one time by the inhabitants, but, owing to the excellent precautions taken by the authorities, the epidemic was stopped. This unfortunate occurrence cost the town about 500l., the Government contributing a portion of the amount. Since then a few cases of small-pox have occurred at a small native village named Mothleyane, about nine miles from Mafeking. By means of vaccination and quarantine, the disease was soon stamped out, and no other cases have been discovered in any other part of the district.

The greatest evil to contend against is the illicit braudy trade with natives. Notwithstanding every endeavour made to cope with this illegal traffic, and every assistance rendered by the Chief Montsioa, numerous complaints have been made. A meeting of the Barolong was called in the stad to discuss the question, when the laws and wishes of the Government were impressed upon the assemblage. After much discussion amongst the Chief and headmen, the Chief Montsioa promulgated a Law imposing a fine of 51: on any native found in possession of brandy. Another matter was discussed at the meeting, the eradication of "Xanthium spinosum" on the native reserve. Since then the natives are carefully uprooting and burning the obnoxious weed.

In October 1894 the Government put up for sale 30 erven of land in this township. A number were sold, but only realised the upset price of 45l. The number of buildings in the town are increasing; during the year several houses have been finished and more are in course of erection. The Cape Government decided to sell part of the land comprised in the "Kimberley—Vryburg Railway Grant." It consisted of 34 farms, mostly situated in this district. The sale took place at Vryburg on the 4th January 1895, and was largely attended; 34 farms were sold, realising the average price of 595l. per farm. This sale has given several farmers the opportunity of settling in the country, and will probably be most conducive to the development of its resources.

Early in November, the headquarters of the Bechuanaland Border Police, were moved to Mafeking, the garrison consisting BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

of about 200 men. Towards the latter end of February a detachment of the force left to escort the waggons carrying about 30 farmers to Lake Ngami, where they hope to select farms and settle.

The constables have been provided with good quarters adjoining the gaol. The health of the prisoners has been good, no deaths having occurred during the year, the daily average of prisoners being 28. Much useful work has been done by the prisoners; amongst other things, 350,000 bricks have been made for use in the erection of Government buildings.

Since the extradition treaty with the Free State came into force, one prisoner has been handed over for trial in that State. The want of such a treaty with the South African Republic

frequently hinders the administration of justice.

The financial and judicial work of the Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate's office has increased considerably of late.

I have, &c.

The Colonial Secretary, Vryburg GEORGE J. BOYES, Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

9. Annual Report of the Civil Commissioner, Taungs, 1894-5.

I have the honour to report that I took over the duties of Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate on the 23rd of June 1894.

The natives had a very good season last year, and reaped a splendid harvest of mealies and Kafir corn. Unfortunately the custom still prevails of waiting for the order of the Chief before any grain can be sold; the consequence is, when the order is given the market is rushed, and grain goes down at once in price. I noticed here that the price for Kafir corn fell at once from 10s. to 5s. per bag.

The natives appear to be fairly prosperous and happy, and money plentiful. The Chief Molala, I am pleased to say, appears to be willing whenever called upon to do so to render assistance

when required.

This year the rains have been rather late, consequently the harvest will not be so good as last year, still I do not think the natives will have reason to complain.

Farms.

The farms towards the west are almost all still unoccupied; of the 50 granted only about 15 are at present occupied.

Roads.

Roads and drifts are being put in repair as far as the funds will permit.

Public Offices.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

43

The public offices are, I am sorry to say, in a bad state; the building is so old that it requires continual repairing.

Gaol.

The gaol is in good order: the health of the prisoners has been good, and there have been no deaths.

Crime.

The district is, I am glad to say, very free from any serious crime. There appears to be no illicit sale of liquor; I have had no case of drunkenness before me.

Schools.

I am pleased to say that a European school has been started; a grant of 50%, per annum is made by Government in aid of school.

I can hardly express an opinion about the progress of this district, being here such a short time; still, as ar as I am able to judge, I am of opinion, that, judging by the receipts of the first three months of this year as compared with the last, the district is steadily progressing. I also noticed amongst the natives that they all brought cash to pay for their taxes and no stock.

> C, B. SCHOLTZ, Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

10. Annual Report of Civil Commissioner, Kuruman, 1894-5.

The past season was expected to be one of great trial and privations to the natives in this district, on account of the exceptionally heavy rainfall; fortunately the predictions were not fulfilled, the harvest being rather above than below the average, and as a consequence the prices of mealies and Kafir corn were low. present season set in not less inauspiciously because of the long drought, which was broken only on the 24th March last. rain came too late for some, and only just in time to save other,

Although there are often partial droughts, the rainfall generally is such that farmers can more or less depend upon it, and there is no reason to doubt that this district has a great future before it when properly developed; but, as this development means the introduction of large and small stock, the reduction and eradication of the rank and useless grasses so as to give room to more useful plants, and the occupation of all farms, a considerable time

will elapse before the real capabilities of the country are known and the full benefit reaped.

On the imposition of a wheel tax the natives of this district in the beginning of last year showed a little restlessness and discontent; by the prompt and judicious steps taken by the Government an open outbreak was prevented, and now, after fully comprehending the reason for this tax, they pay willingly.

The only educational work in this district is that carried on among the natives by the London Missionary Society, and there appears as yet to be but small chances of success for a school for

European children.

I am sorry to say that the payment of quitrent is not at all satisfactory; the owners of farms, unfortunately, allow the rent to fall in arrear and then find it difficult, and almost impossible, to

raise the money.

Colonial Kafirs stealing stock in the Cape Colony generally try to escape to the mountains in the Longberg native location, and frequently succeed in escaping the vigilance of the Bechuanaland Border Police detachment stationed near the mountains; but with one more police station we may hope to prevent the thieves reaching their place of refuge so easily, and gradually check them altogether. Hardly any crime is committed by the Bechuanas.

The state of health in this district is fairly good. An eruptive disease, which is undoubtedly contagious, made its appearance last December. It is supposed to be a mild form of small-pox; but, in the absence of a district surgeon, the true nature of the disease has not been ascertained. No deaths have occurred and, most of

the people having been vaccinated, it makes slow progress.

Kuruman, 10th April 1895. C. BAM, Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

11. REPORT of the CIVIL COMMISSIONER and RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, Gordonia, for the year 1894-5.

The duties of Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate, Gordonia, were assumed in July 1894, by Mr. J. A. Ashburnham vice Mr. C. Bam, transferred to Kuruman.

Much needed township regulations have been framed during the year by the Village Management Boards at Upington and Kemioes respectively, approved by the Governor, and published.

Crime cannot be said to have increased, though the number of convictions has been greater during the year under review than during the preceding year. This increase is to some extent due to prosecutions for contraventions of the new township regulations; it is with difficulty that the native inhabitants of the town can be brought to see the need for sanitary and other reforms. The greatest number of convictions have been obtained for stock-theft and offences under the Masters and Servants Act.

The native inhabitants of the district are the so-called Bastards. Under the former régime a number of these men acquired farms and other landed property and are now practically independent. This fact has an unwholesome influence on the rest of the community who, as relatives, friends, or "hangers-on" of landed proprietors, are disinclined to work and are apt to take a somewhat false view of their position. Good servants are therefore extremely difficult to obtain in the district.

BRITISH BECHUANA LAND. 1894-5.

A considerable illicit sale of brandy to these Bastards is carried on through the medium of low class Europeans. The natives cannot be induced to disclose the names of the individuals through whom they obtain liquor, and trapping has been resorted to with unsatisfactory results. It would certainly be a boon to employers of labour if the possession of liquor by natives were made an offence, though some resentment might be looked for on the part of the better class of bastards who, as I have stated, are landowners of position in the district.

The first valuation has been made during the year of the rateable property within the areas subject to the management of the village boards at Upington and Kemioes respectively. The completed valuation rolls show the value of rateable property at Upington to be 45,000l, and at Kemioes 12,700l. A rate of $\frac{3}{4}d$, in the £ has been imposed on rateable property at Upington, and of $1\frac{1}{6}d$ in the £ at Kemioes.

Towards the end of the year, an attempt was made to dispose of some of the vacant Crown land in the district. Of 23 tarms offered for sale by public auction, only three found purchasers. This result is not, I think, due to the terms and conditions of the sale, which were favourable, but may be attributed chiefly to the enforced isolation of a district situated 200 miles from the railway and kept in touch with the outer world by a weekly post only. district is a favourable one for the stock farmer. During the year about 6,000 head of cattle and 5,000 head of small stock were exported and realised, on the average, higher prices than stock from other parts of the territory, and its capabilities only require to be known in order to be appreciated. The water question in certain parts of the district presents the only practical difficulty, though, as the farms are developed and farmers spurred to greater efforts by the competition to be looked for from the gradual occupation of the country, this difficulty will in time be overcome. One farmer has expended 2001. in the purchase of a boring machine which is at work on his farm in the north-western portion of the district, but, unfortunately, the hard and brak (or salt) nature of the subterraneous waters in that neighbourhood render them unpleasant to the taste and unsuited for agricultural purposes. The construction of dams would be an easy matter on most of the farms, and the rainfall, though small as compared with that in other parts of the territory, should be sufficient to meet the requirements of any farmer who has made provision for storing the water thus obtainable. As an instance may be mentioned a

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5. farm, not far from Upington, where a dam just completed has been filled to overflowing by a recent rain and now affords on what was formerly called a dry farm a supply of water more than sufficient for the requirements of the proprietor throughout the year.

I append a comparative return of the rainfall registered at

Upington during the years 1893-4 and 1894-5.

During the year, the Upington water furrow has been extended westwards to the border of the commonage, bringing under irrigation 11 more erven which are shortly to be sold by public auction.

Some alarm was occasioned on the western border by the armed patrols within this district of German soldiers from Great Namaqualand, and the private rights of British subjects in the neighbourhood were to some extent violated. The matter has been represented in the proper quarters and a discontinuation of

this disquieting practice may now be looked for.

Lung-sickness appeared on several farms in the district, but has been almost completely stamped out by the immediate adoption of measures for the isolation of affected cattle and the placing in quarantine of the areas concerned. The recent appointment by the German authorities of a commissioner of lung-sickness on the western border will doubtless check the importation of fresh

cases from that quarter.

The proceeds of the wheel tax have been small as compared with the size of the district, and the expenditure of a considerable proportion of the amount available has necessarily been confined to such portions of the main roads as lie within a radius of from 15 to 20 miles from Upington. Owing to the absence of rivers and the sandy nature of the greater part of the district, the roads are capable of substantial improvement at comparatively small cost, and with a judicious expenditure of the future proceeds of this tax it may confidently be expected that in a very few years all the main roads of the district will have been put into good serviceable order. The two main roads between Upington and Kemioes are now in good repair.

During the year a hospital, store-room, female cell, kitchen, and

two yards have been added to the gaol.

Two licences to prospect for diamonds have been taken out and the prospectors are still at work. The indications are said to be good, but I am not aware that there has as yet been any tangible result. Gold prospecting is also being carried on, and a discovery of asbestos (six inches long on the surface) is reported from a farm in the neighbourhood of Upington.

I annex the report of the District Surgeon, and some statistical

returns.

J. A. ASHBURNHAM, Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

AVERAGE RATE of WAGES for LABOUR.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

	_			Per Annum.	Per Diem.
Predial		-	-	6l. and food.	1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.
Domestic	-		-	12l. to 18l. and food.	-
Trades -	-	-	-		15s, to 20s.

AVERAGE PRICES of various ARTICLES of Use and Consumption.

Article	ON THE RESERVE OF THE	Pric	og					Pric	es in					
Article	es.	THE	es.	Janu	ary.	1	lpr:	il.		[ul	у.	Oc	tob	er.
Wheaten flour -	per 100 lbs.	£ s		£ .		£		d.	£	s. 2	d. 6	£	8.	d.
Wheat	,,	0 17	6	0 1	5 0	0	17	6	1	0	0	1	0	0
Wheaten bread -	per lb.	0 (6	0	0 6	0	0	6	0	0	6	0	0	6
Mealie bread -	per 100 lbs.	0 16	0	0 1	6 0	0	16	0	0	17	6	0	17	6
Boer meal	"	0 19	0	0 1	9 0	1	2	0	1	5	0	1	5	0
Horned cattle -	- each	3 10	0	3 1	0 0	3	10	0	4	0	0	4	0	0
Horses	- ,,	10 0	0	10	0 0	10	0	0	10	0	0	10	0	0
Sheep	"	0 10	0	0 1	0 0	0	10	0	0	12	6	0	12	6
Goats	- "	0 5	6	0	5 6	0	5	6	0	7	6	6	7	6
Milk	per bottle	0 0	3	0	0 3	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	3
Butter, fresh -	- per lb.	0 1	6	0	1 6	0	1	6	0	1	6	0	1	6
" salt -	- ,,	0 1	3	0	1 3	0	1	3	0	1	3	0	1	3
Cheese	- "	0 2	3	0	2 3	0	2	3	0	2	3	0	2	3
Beef	- "	0 0	5	0	0 5	0	0	5	0	0	41/2	0	0	4
Mutton	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	0 0	4	0	0 4	0	0	4	0	0	31/2	0	0	3
Coffee	- ,,	0 1	6	0	1 6	0	1	6	0	1	6	0	1	6
Rice	,,	0 6	6	0	0 6	0	0	6	0	0	6	0	0	6
Tea		0 3	9	0	3 9	0	3	9	0	3	9	0	3	9
Sugar	- ,,	0 0	6	0	0 6	6	0	6	0	0	6	0	0	6
Salt · -	- ,,	0 0	11/2	0	0 13	0	0	11/2	0	0	11/2	0	0	1
Wine, Cape -	-per bottle	0 2	6	0	2 6	0	2	6	0	2	6	0	2	6
Brandy, Cape -	- "	0 3	0	0	3 0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	3	0
Beer	- "	2	6	0	2 6	0	2	6	0	2	6	0	2	6
Tobacco, Colonial	- per lb.	0 2	6	0	2 6	0	2	6	0	2	6	0	2	6

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

RETURN OF PRODUCE AND STOCK, &c.

Crops.—Nature of Crop and Number of Acres in Each.

Wheat.	Barley.	Mealies.	Potatoes.	Tobacco.	Oathay.
Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
11,547	133	54	9	16	462

Stock.—Number of—

Horses and Mules.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Goats.	Donkeys.
No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1,971	26,280	85,981	35,823	676

Produce.—Nature of Produce and Quantity of Each.

Wheat.	Barley.	Mealies.	Potatoes.	Tobacco.	Oathay.
Muids.	Muids.	Muids.	Muids.	Lbs.	Bundles
6,138	43	751	40	13,980	108,862

Price of Produce.—Nature of Produce and Price of Each.

Wheat.	Barley.	Mealies.	Potatoes.	Tobacco.	Oathay.
Muids. 11. 15s. to 21.	Muids.	Muids.	Muids. 21. 5s.	lbs. 2s.	Bundles.

Estimated Acreage of Cultivated Land in Division.	Estimated Acreage of Uncultivated Land in Division.	Estimated Acreage of Division.
Acres. 12,231	No means of ascertaining.	No means of ascertaining.

Note.—The district is almost entirely pastoral; it is only on the banks of the river that agriculture is possible. The returns as to crops are only approximate; e.g., they show an average yield of wheat of about two muids an acre, whereas the average yield of land retually sown must be considerably greater, and might safely be estimated at five or six muids.

BRITISH

MANUFACTURES.

One water mill; one steam mill, also employed for wood cutting; both at Upington One water mill at Inersdale.

BechuanaLand.
1894-5.

Brandy, wine, vinegar, and raisins are manufactured in small quantities in the district by a few farmers. The quantities (about) for the year 1894-5 were as follows:—

MEDICAL REPORT, 1894-5.

The state of health during the last year has been generally a good one as well in Upington itself as in the other parts of the Gordonia district; excepted is an influenza epidemic, which lasted from October 1894 till December. A few cases only, especially amongst adults, were severe, but, as far as I know, none of them resulted in death.

In consequence of this sickness, I had to treat as after-sickness a few cases of pneumonia, pleurites, and severe bronchitis. Further I had to treat para- and peri-metritis, peritonitis, nephritis, a couple of rheuma musculorum and articulorum, heart diseases, catarrh, ventriculi, acute and chronic, severe conjunctivitis (very often), thyphus recurrens, angina tonsillaris, panaritium, furunculosis, psoriasis, herpes, eczema, and very often venerous diseases, &c., &c.

Well worth mentioning yet is the fact that syphilis is very frequent in the district, and, the people being left to themselves, no limits against the further spreading of this evil can be drawn.

The hygienic circumstances of Upington and Keydabis are a little better than the year's before, because the people are bound to use closets, but there is still much more what can be done, and must be done, in respect to the sanitary state of the whole district.

Upington, March 15, 1895.

G. MARQUARDT, M.D., District Surgeon. BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

Rainfall at Upington in Inches.

Mon	h.		1893–4.	1894–5.
			Inches.	Inches.
April -	-	-	· 18	· 45
May -	-	-	• 26	.77
June -	- 3	-	.03	.06
July -		-	. 02	
August	-	-	· 37	
September	-	-		
October		-	.02	1.73
November	/-		. 63	.35
December	-	-	.04	3.90
January	-	-	1.36	71
February	-	-	2.58	.11
March		-	1.32	.92
Total	-		6.81	9.00

12. REPORT on YEAR 1894-95.

The Hospital, Vryburg, June 29, 1895.

DURING the past year the number of cases treated in the hospital was 42, of which four were accidents.

Thirty cases were discharged cured, 7 relieved, and 5 resulted in death.

This may appear a high rate of deaths in proportion to the number of cases admitted, but it must be stated that cases are frequently sent in to the hospital, at the last moment, or as the result of accident, which are certain to terminate fatally.

The number of patients admitted free, or from whom no fees could be recovered, was 10. The remaining 32 contributed the sum of 98l., at rates varying from two shillings to ten shillings per diem. The majority of the patients admitted are people without homes, or with very inadequate home accommodation, and it follows that the amounts to be collected from such persons, for the most part nearly destitute, can only be small.

The advantages of a hospital are now beginning to be more generally appreciated in the district, and it is almost certain that next year a far larger number of cases will have come under treatment.

His Honour the Administrator, Vryburg. I have, &c.
M. VEALE,
Matron.

BRITISH

BECHUANA-

LAND.

1894-5.

51

COLONIAL REPORTS. -- ANNUAL.

Vryburg, April 25, 1895. SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the information of his Honour the Administrator, that during the last 12 months the district and township of Vryburg have been exceptionally healthy.

2. During this period I have to record the following zymotic diseases which occurred in the township and district, viz., measles, influenza, and enteric fever.

3. The health of the convicts at the central gaol has been I have treated a large number of cases—total 131—

but they have been of trivial nature.

During this period no deaths have occurred in the gaol hospital. The diet of the convicts is good. The cells and yards are kept clean and are in good order.

The Colonial Secretary, Vryburg.

I have, &c. N. M. NUGENT, District Surgeon.

14. Annual Report of the District Surgeon of Mafeking, Bechuanaland, for the period April 1, 1894, to March 31, 1895.

Mafeking, April 1, 1895. SIR.

I HAVE the honour to report that during the above mentioned period the health of the inhabitants of the district of Mafeking has been satisfactory, but not quite so much so as during former years.

Small-pox was introduced into the township at the end of March 1894, with the result that 31 Europeans contracted the disease and three died.

I observed 20 cases among the native population, but I have no doubt that many cases were not reported.

The disease was successfully combated by means of isolation and vaccination.

Referring to the attached table of diseases* one of the cases of dysentery and liver abscess was contracted at Inyati in Matabeleland, and the other at Kanya in the Protectorate.

The fever cases were of a mild, malarial, remittent type, and the majority were cases of relapse, occurring among men of the Bechuanaland Border Police from Matabeleland. The increase Bechuanaland Border Police from Matabeleland. in the number of gastro-intestinal diseases is also explained by the return of the Bechuanaland Border Police from Macloutsie to this station.

Influenza in the form of infectious feverish catarrhs of the respiratory organs was present in the district from August 1894 to March 1895.

The natives suffered considerably from influenza and several deaths came under my notice.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5. Sixteen deaths from general causes, occurred among the Europeans during the year.

The gaol was kept in a good sanitary condition and good

quality rations supplied.

The number of prisoners reported sick was 101; of this number, 22 were cases of influenza, 4 fever, 5 gastro-intestinal disease, 7 catarrhs of the respiratory organs, and the remainder trivial illnesses of no statistical value.

No deaths occurred among the prisoners.

I have, &c

A. PIERCE GREEN, District Surgeon.

The Secretary, Vryburg.

- 15. Annual Report of the Assistant Commissioner at Gaberones, British Bechuanaland Protectorate, for the year ended 31st March 1895.
- 1. For several years past there has been a dispute between the Bamangwato and the Bakwena as to the boundary between This led to the dispute in 1886 between the the two tribes. Chiefs Khama and Sebele about the waters at Lophepe, which was decided by Captain, now Colonel, H. Goold Adams, Bechuanaland Border Police; and to the dispute between Khama and Sebele about the water at Tsitle, which was temporarily arranged by myself in 1893. During the past year this boundary dispute was further complicated by a claim set up by the Chief Linchwe to the boundary claimed by the Bakwena from the Crocodile River to Lothakeng, on the ground that he had conquered the land, on the south of this line, from the Bakwena; and in order to establish his claim he sent a large body of armed men to cut poles, of a valuable kind of wood, which he required for building purposes, also to dig pits and to select cattle-posts in the disputed ground. This ground has, ever since the existence of the Protectorate, been occupied by the Bamangwato, and Linchwe's action annoyed Khama very much, and he wished to send a force to expel Linchwe's men. It was, however, arranged to have the dispute settled by arbitration, and in October last a Commission, composed of his Honour Sir Sidney Shippard, K.C.M.G., as president, the Rev. J. S. Moffat, C.M.G., and myself as members, met at Lokhalo, and, after hearing the evidence adduced by Khama, Sebele, and Linchwe in support of the claims, defined a line, to be recognized by all parties, as Khama's southern boundary. This line is described in the award made by the Commissioners, and there is every reason to believe that it will be respected by all concerned.
- 2. Friction has long existed between Sebele, Chief of the Bakwena, and his brother Khari, and in August last the latter decided to separate from the former, but, as a large number of the tribe wished to go with him, and as according to Bechuana custom

their property would be liable to seizure if they did so without theconsent of the Paramount Chief, Khari applied to the Government for permission to remove from Molepolole with all who wished to follow him, together with all their property, and for protection while doing so. A Commission, consisting of his Honour Sir Sidney Shippard, Capt. A. V. Gosling, Bechuanaland Border Police, and myself, met at Molepolole, and, after enquiring into the dispute, gave an award according to the terms of which Khari and his followers were allowed till the 30th instant to remove from Molepolole with all their movable property and to go to Kolobeng in Bakwena territory or to the territory of Khama or Bathoen, if either of these Chiefs were willing to receive them. They elected to remain in Bakwena territory, but strongly objected to go to Kolobeng, wishing to be on the border of the Kalahari Desert so as to be able to receive the tribute brought in by the tribe's vassals called the Bakalahari, who inhabit the desert, who live principally by killing game, of which they are obliged to give the skins, horns, feathers, &c. to their masters, the Bakwena. Khari and his followers therefore located themselves at Tshupane, a place about 12 miles north of Molepolole, in the hope of being allowed to remain there, and Khari requested permission to do so, but was told that he must carry out the terms of the award.

Feeling at times ran very high between the two parties, and I have had some difficulty in preventing them from coming to blows. The members of the tribe who have followed Khari at first gave as their reason for leaving Sebele that the latter ruled them unjustly, but it now appears that Khari claims to be Paramount Chief of the tribe, on the grounds that cattle were given by the tribe for his mother when she was married to Sechele, and that no cattle were given for Sebele's mother when Sechele married her.

He and a number of his men have now gone to Kolobeng, but their families and property are still at Tshupane; they are, how-

3. Linchwe complained that some of his cattle had been seized in the Protectorate by the South African Republic's Police, but on enquiry it appeared that the boundary he claimed was about six miles within the Republic, and that the cattle were seized in the Transvaal, not in the Protectorate. The correct boundary has been pointed out to him.

4. Khamane, a brother of the Chief Khama, who, after being expelled from the Bamangwato territory, went to the South African Republic, and who removed from there to the country of the Chief Linchwe, has now returned to that of the Bamangwato,

with Khama's consent.

5. A party of trekkers left Mafeking in the beginning of February last for Lake Ngami, and travelled through the Protectorate. The Chiefs were informed and requested not to interfere with them, and, so far as I have heard, they have not met with any opposition or molestation from the natives. A detachment of the Bechuanaland Border Police accompanied the trekkers.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND, 1894-5. BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND 1894-5. 6. The Chiefs now refer all disputes with their neighbours to me and submit much more readily to the authority of the Government than they formerly did.

7. In February last the Chief of the Bakhatla, living at Moshupa, was summoned by a trader for the payment of a debt of 82l. sterling for goods sold and delivered to him. Judgment was

given against the Chief, and he has satisfied it.

8. Detachments of the police are still stationed at the places named in paragraph 11 of my last annual report. Horse sickness, owing, I think, to the drought, has been very mild this season.

9. Seventy-eight criminal, and 20 civil, cases have been heard

in my court during the year.

10. The past season has been a very dry one, and the natives will consequently reap very little grain this year, but they have sufficient from last year's abundant crop to keep them in food for some time to come.

11. I have heard of very few cases of fever during the year, but small-pox in a mild form is said to have broken out at Ramoutsa and Mochudi, but up to the present I have not heard

of any deaths from it.

12. Traffic through the Protectorate to the north has greatly increased, and there are now accommodation houses at comparatively short intervals along the road from Mafeking to the junction of the Notwane and Crocodile Rivers.

13. Religious and school work is still being carried on by the missionaries resident in the several large villages in the southern

Protectorate, and is, I believe, making fair progress.

14. The revenue collected at my office during the year amounts to 742l. 18s. 6d., under the following heads:—

Licences:				£	s.	d.	
Liquor -	-	-	-	270	0	0	
General traders'	-	-	-	190	0	0	
Hawker's -		-	-	55	0	0	
Gunpowder -	-	-	-	35	0	0	
Gun	-		-	49	0	0	
Aërated waters	-		-	2	5	0	
Ammunition permi	ts	-	-	48	17	6	
Sale of unclaimed s	stock	-	-	13	16	0	
Judicial fines	-	_	-	59	16	0	
" fees	-	-	-	8	3	6	
Stamps -	-	-	-	11	0	6	
		Total		$\overline{742}$	18	6	
				-	-		

W. H. SURMON, Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office, Gaberones, April 23, 1895. 16. DEPARTMENTAL REPORT of the Assistant Commissioner for the Bechuanaland Northern Protectorate for the year ending March 31, 1895.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

1. There are three seats of magistracy in the district,—Palapve, Motloutse Camp, and Lake N'Gami. It has been arranged that the Tati district be administered by the magistrate at Motloutse Camp. This magistrate also communicates directly with the Resident Commissioner at Vryburg on all matters judicial and mancial, but in any matter of a political nature he is supposed to refer to the Assistant Commissioner at Palapye. I do not know

what the functions of the magistrate are at Lake N'Gami.

2. The year has been comparatively uneventful. About this time 12 months a difficulty arose in consequence of the intrusion by the Chief Lenchwe, of the Bakhatla at Mochudi, into country claimed by the Bamangwato. The sudden appearance of a large armed force among the Bamangwato cattle posts in that locality caused much confusion, the loss of some stock by the Bamangwatos and more or less directly of two lives. It was arranged that a commission should sit at a spot on or near the boundary to be determined. This Commission met accordingly, and an enquiry was held by his Honour the Resident Commissioner, the Assistant Commissioners of the Southern and Northern Protectorate respectively being also present. The Chiefs were:—Khama for the Bamangwato, Sebele for the Bakwena and Lenchwe for the Bakhatla. The question at issue lay mainly between Khama and Sebele, though the conduct of Lenchwe had led to the holding of an enquiry. As Khama and Sebele had both been well advised and came to the meeting predisposed to any reasonable agreement, it was not difficult to arrive at a settlement of the line which satisfied both of them, but Lenchwe went away very discontented. Khama expressed a wish for a line to be beaconed by a surveyor; Sebele was willing to leave the boundary as verbally defined by the Commission. Under these circumstances, Khama was required to pay the expenses of the survey, which was considerable. The line was surveyed by Mr. Windley, but, owing to an unfortunate misunderstanding with the party of Bamangwato sent to co-operate with him, the beacons were not put up. This matter has not yet been rectified, but it is hoped that Mr. Windley may be able to return and complete the delimitation of beacon at a small additional The Chief Sekhoma Lecholathièbè of the cost to Khama. Batavana at Lake N'Gami has been on a visit to Khama, who is his uncle. I have not heard that there is any political significance to be attached to the circumstance, though probably the meeting will have given scope for mutual consultation and advice. It is possible also that a matrimonal alliance may be one result.

The Batvana are also Bamangwato, who migrated to Lake N'Gami about three generations back. Khamane, the brother of Khama, was for a long time an exile. He lived with a few

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5. followers at the junction of the Crocodile and Ngotwane Rivers under the Chief Lenchwe. A reconciliation has taken place between him and his brother, and he has been allowed to re-enter the country and to take up his quarters at Shoshong, about 70

miles south-west of this place.

3. The internal condition of the Bamangwato tribe is, politically, not satisfactory. The autocratic disposition of the Chief is growing upon him, and is causing a certain amount of unpleasant feeling. Several men, his brothers, and the near relations, find themselves excluded from the councils of the Chief, and their places taken by the Chief's son, Sekhoma, and son-in-law, Rachosa. Probably they have in some way betrayed their resentment, for there is a strong feeling of hostility shown by the Chief, though I cannot say that I have seen anything of the same kind on their part, beyond the fact that they are now appealing to the Government, through the Assistant Commissioner, for intervention. Commercially the year has been fairly prosperous. A large amount of money is being earned by the natives in the carrying trade between this and Buluwayo. There was a large grain harvest last year, though, in consequence of the indifferent prospects this year, there was a disposition to hold back their stores of grain. The natives are now selling freely in consequence of the high prices which rule at Buluwayo.

4. There has been very little serious crime. One or two offences of an aggravated character have been dealt with by the Chief himself as between individuals of his own tribe. The principal trouble has been in the matter of cattle and horse stealing carried on mainly by white men going through the country on their way to and from Matabeleland, and, unfortunately, these cases do not come to light until the offender is far beyond the reach of the law.

5. The revenue for the past financial year amounted in all to about 2811., made up mainly of storekeepers, gun and ammunition licences As no liquor licences are used in Khama's country the revenue is correspondingly smaller than it might be, but there must be taken into account on the other side the greater volume of wholesome trade and the phenomenally peaceful condition and freedom from the annoyance of petty crime enjoyed in the Bamangwato town. A much smaller amount has come in under the head of native ammunition licences than was expected. Either a much smaller amount of ammunition is required for the supply of the natives than we had supposed, or there must be ammunition coming in from other and illicit sources. The total number of licences issued from this office for the year ending 31st March last is 346, which represents 34,600 rounds, which, considering that there are 1,500 breech-loaders in the town and, say, as many muzzle-loaders, is not much; that ammunition may be coming in through unauthorised channels is not at all unlikely, seeing that hundreds of guns cross the Crocodile River every year from the Transvaal in the hands of natives returning from the mines at Johannesburg. If the whole of the Bechuanaland Border Police were stationed in patrols along the Crocodile River

from the junction at Palla to the junction of the Tuli it would be impossible for them to to put a stop to this, and it is too much to expect any hearty co-operation from the Bamangwato's or other Chief in a matter of this kind, which, like the prohibition of the sale of breech-loaders in the Protectorate, they look upon as an insult and a grievance.

British Bechuana-Land. 1894-5.

- 6. There have been no public works to speak of at the charge of the Government, except a road for the postal service exclusively, which has been made down the mountain on the Buluwayo side of Palapye. The Chief has also made a road up the rocky brow which separates the upper from the lower plateau on which the town stands. There is much need for the sinking of wells along the main transport and postal route, but this is a subject on which it is difficult to approach the Chief, in consequence of the extreme jealousy of the native mind, in which, not altogether without reason, there is a disposition to regard any work of this kind done by white men as setting up a claim to the ownership of the ground.
- 7. The Chief Khama has shown a steady disposition to cooperate in carrying out the wishes of the Government; but for this there would often have cropped up occasion of difficulty. The present position is necessarily transitional, and it is to be hoped will not long be continued, as so much depends on the personal attitude of the Chief. An independent chieftainship side by side with British protection affords scope for plenty of cases where the one might come into conflict with the other. It is necessary to be very careful where any of the Chief's own native subjects are concerned to secure the concurrence of the Chief in judicial matters, and not to seem to ignore him or to go behind him, as no one can be more sensitive when his own prerogative is touched. One difficulty has cropped up in connection with his brothers, and an appeal has been made by them to the Government. The Chief is much incensed that such an appeal should have been made, and still more so that it should have found a channel in the Assistant Commissioner. He seems unable to understand how it can be the duty of that officer to report to the Government such matters, which he regards as within his own prerogative alone, and he is equally unable to understand that by so reporting the Assistant Commissioner does not make himself a partizan.
- 8. There has been a large extension of religious and educational work during the 12 months. The place of the late Rev. J. D. Hepbourn has been taken by the Rev. W. C. Willoughby, whose work is supplemented by that of two ladies, also sent out by the London Missionary Society, Miss Young and Miss Hargreaves. The latter is to take up general mission work among the women, the former is in charge of the schools. The Chief has shown his appreciation of what has been done in this way by building at his own cost a fine range of schoolrooms of a solid and permanent character; these have cost upwards of 500%, besides the native labour, also furnished by the Chief.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

There is no doubt about the reality of the religious results from the labours of the Rev. J. D. Hepburn, a man of singular selfdevotion and zeal, whose influence will long be felt in their tribe.

There is plenty of heathenism still; some Christian converts, only one remove from their primeval paganism, are not what some people in England might imagine, but a great step has been taken,

and that in the right direction.

9. The general health at Palapye has been good, and does not answer to the extraordinary statements which have been made in some quarters. There is no regular practitioner, but the town has been fairly free from disease. There has been no noticeable mortality since the great influenza epidemic of 1892, which ignorant persons put down to be malarial fever. Malaria there certainly is, and Europeans especially require to pay some regard to hygienic laws, in a climate like this, where the mean temperature is that of the tropics. We are about 3,500 feet above the sea level. The water is not abundant but wholesome. There would be no difficulty in increasing the supply but for the extreme

jealousy about the digging of wells.

10. The civil staff here consists of the Assistant Commissioner and his clerk. Besides these there are four men of the Bechuanaland Border Police. One of these, a non-commissioned officer, is employed as collector of customs. Another is supposed to be in charge as corporal of the detachment, and has no particular duties. One of the troopers is also gaoler, with a native subordinate. The troopers are also in attendance at the office, and act as messengers, they also wait upon the Assistant Commissioner personally when he goes out mounted. The arrangement is clumsy and expensive, and is adopted to utilize the services of men who are kept on hand, and would not otherwise be employed. It would be better, even if the police must be used in this way, for the one who is collector of customs to have one as his assistant, for the Assistant Commissioner's office to be served by a white man who would combine the duties of gaoler, chief constable, and messenger with two native subordinates.

11. Besides, the regular mail service between Mafeking and Buluwayo viâ Palapye, there has been a minor postal service carried on by native runners. This is in charge of the Assistant Commissioner's office and is directed to Lake N'Gami in the one case and to Kazemgulu on the Zambesi River in the other. The Lake N'Gami post is monthly, at a cost of 5t, which is paid to two native runners; the distance is 500 miles. The Zambesi post goes once in two months, at a cost of 10t, which is paid by the British South Africa Company; the distance is somewhat greater. These posts keep up the communication with the magistrate and missionaries at Lake N'Gami and with the French and Primitive Methodist missionaries in the valley of the Zambesi.

Palapye, April 29, 1895.

J. S. MOFFAT, Assistant Commissioner.

17. Annual Report of the Bechuanaland Border Police, 1894 to 1895.

British Bechuana-Land. 1894-5.

The Annual Report of the Bechuanaland Border Police for 1894 to 1895 is compiled from 1st April 1894 to 31st March 1895.

I.—Strength.

The strength of the regiment on 1st April 1894 was as follows:-

Distribution.	Officers.	N.C.O's. and Troopers.	Total.	Troops.
Matabeleland	15	215	230	E. and F.
Northern Protectorate -	10	69	79	K.
Southern Protectorate -	4	72	76	G.
Bechuanaland	8	105	113	A.
Total	37	461	498	La La Santa

During April and May the remainder of the troops in Matabeleland returned to Macloutsie.

The garrison in the Southern Protectorate was increased to 150 all ranks and 110 horses during the months of July, August, September, and October, and was reduced to 75 all ranks, and 70 horses in November, when the Mafeking garrison was increased proportionately.

The authorised strength of the Force is 410 all ranks, and the present distribution is as follows:—

Distribution.	Officers.	N.C.O's. and Men.	Total.	Troops.
Tati		3	3	E.
Northern Protectorate -	4	62	66	E.
Southern Protectorate -	5	69	74	G.
Bechuanaland	14	226	240	A. F. & K.
Lt. Walsh's Patrol	1	7	8	Tomaco Cy
Captain Fuller's Patrol -	2	15	17	A. F. & K.
Total	26	382	408	all the area

BRITISH
BECHUANA
LAND.
1894-5.

II.--Appointments, Promotions, Resignations.

The following appointments, resignations, &c. have taken place during the year:—

Sub-Lieutenant W. Baker rejoined his corps 16th March 1894.

Captain A. B. Nolan, 3rd Dragoon Guards, rejoined his regiment 17th April 1894.

Surgeon W. Johnson resigned at the termination of his engagement, 10th May 1894.

Captain W. Gordon, Royal Highlanders, rejoined his regiment 29t May 1894.

Sub-Lieutenant Cosgrove, Cape Mounted Rifles, rejoined his regiment 10th June 1894.

Major S. D. Browne, R.A., rejoined his regiment 12th June 1894.

Surgeon W. M. Eaton returned to duty in Basutoland 14th June 1894.

Lieutenant A. Wight resigned 31st July 1894.

Sub-Lieutenant H. Bremner, 20th Hussars, rejoined his regiment 31st August 1894.

Captain Lindsell resigned 11th September 1894.

Sergeant A. C. Pyke promoted Sub-Lieutenant, vice Sub-Lieutenant H. Bremner, 10th December 1894.

Hon. Captain and Quarter-Master F. Molyneux resigned 15th January 1895.

Captain F. Tighe, Army Medical Department, appointed Quarter-Master, vice Molyneux resigned, 16th January 1895.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. Goold-Adams rejoined his regiment, 16th February 1895.

Surgeon A. Vigne resigned 5th March 1895.

Surgeon W. Clucas temporarily appointed medical officer for six months 6th March 1895.

III .- Deaths.

I regret to report the following deaths:-

Lieutenant and Acting Quarter-Master J. Fairbairn died at Inyati 11th April 1894.

Trooper B. Prout died at Gaberones 9th August 1894.

Trooper J. Somers drowned in the Harts River 26th September 1894.

Trooper H. Dewhurst died at Gaberones 4th November 1894. Trooper E. C. Fitzgerald died at Mafeking 4th November 1894. Corporal J. Thornton died at Mafeking 21st November 1894.

Trooper G. Hall died at Vryburg 6th January 1895. Trooper R. Ellis died at Mafeking 29th March 1895.

- 80

IV.—Desertions.

Two men deserted at Gaberones in November 1894. They took no Government property.

One man deserted from Mafeking in February 1895.

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

V.—Native Strength.

The strength of natives on 31st March 1895 was as follows:-

Northern Protectorate	9	July 4	THE A		5
Southern Protectorate	9		- 4	-	16
Bechuanaland	-		-	-	39
m-4-1					
Total -	-	-	-		80

VI.—Transport Vehicles.

The transport of the corps on 1st April 1894 was as follows:-

36 ox waggons. 11 Scotch carts. 3 spring carts.

2 water carts.

The present strength is as follows:

34 ox waggons. 11 Scotch carts. 6 spring carts. 16 water carts.

VII.—Mule Strength.

The strength of mules on the 1st April 1894 was 43; the present strength is 53.

VIII .- Ox Strength.

The strength of oxen on the 1st April 1894 was 639; the present strength is 480.

IX.—Horse Strength.

The strength of horses on 1st April 1894 was 381; during the year 231 have been purchased, 255 have died or been lost, I was claimed by the British South Africa Company, leaving the present strength 356, which are distributed as follows:-

Northern Protectorate	-		- 60
Southern Protectorate	- 10	-	- 66
Bechuanaland -	-		- 230
Total -	-	-	- 356

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

X .- Armament,

The armament of the corps at the present time consists of:-

2 seven-pounder guns 400 lbs.

5 ,, ,, 200 ,,

4 Maxim guns.

2 Nordenfelt guns.

1,314 Martini-Henry rifles.

217 Snider rifles.

118 revolvers.

963 shell, shrapnel.

432 , common.

91 . star.

189 shot case.

33,075 Maxim ammunition.

10,197 Nordenfelt ammunition.

1,099,812 Martini-Henry ammunition.

22,350 Suider ammunition.

4,737 revolver

3,528 Ely boxer ,,

Of the above, 30 Martini-Henry rifles, 48 Snider rifles, 46,710 rounds Martini-Henry ammunition, and 10,180 rounds Snider ammunition were lent to the British South Africa Company during the operations in Matabeleland and have not been returned.

One Gatling gun and 18,600 rounds of ammunition on loan to the Bechuanaland Border Police from the Tati Gold Mining Company, have been returned.

XI. - Special Employment.

Ten troopers have been employed in performing the duties of Customs officers at Mafeking, Ramoutsa, Sequani, Palla, Palapye, Macloutsie, Grobellars Cross Roads, Saas's Post.

The usual escort of a non-commissioned officer and three troopers has been provided for the Assistant-Commissioner at Palapye.

Lieutenant Walsh and seven non-commissioned officers and troopers left Palapye in July 1894 for Ghansi on special service. He arrived at the station of the Chief Sekgomo on 23rd September 1894 and formed a camp, 18 miles off, at Mashabing, where they still remain.

Captain Fuller, Sub-Lieutenant Phipps, Surgeon Holmden, and 15 non-commissioned officers and troopers left Mafeking for the Ghanzi district on 4th February 1895 on special service. Satisfactory reports have been been received as to the progress of the party.

XII.—Regimental Works.

The following is a list of repairs and improvements effected during the year:—

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND. 1894-5.

Statio	n.		New or Re-constructed Buildings.				
Tati -			New barracks.				
Palla -			바다 그리고 그 그림은 사람들은 바꾸다.				
Gaberones	110	-	Barracks and stable re-built.				
			New barracks for 60 men (with lavatories); stables for 60 horses; hospital.				
Ramoutsa -		-	Barracks re-built.				
Molopolole	-	-	Barracks acquired and repaired, &c.				
Kanya -		-	Barracks and stable re-built.				
Sand Pits -	-	-	Barracks re-built.				
Mafeking -		-	New troop kitchen; magazine; floors cement concreted and walls cemented; new shelter stables for 125 horses, with farriers' store and room for Maxim harness and small stores; water laid on to barracks, quarters, &c. stone and cement tank for watering horses.				
Vryburg -		-	New latrines; new gable ends to barracks, buttresses, &c. stable repaired and strengthened.				
Taungs -		-	Barracks partly rebuilt, and considerably repaired and added to.				
Schaapfontein		-	Barracks re-built.				
Tweelings Pan		-	22				
Longberg -		-	New barracks.				
Gamagara	1	200	New well and stable.				
Genesa -	5-15-	4-	Barracks, &c. repaired.				
Mosete -	C.	-					
Moroquin -		-	New barracks.				

Besides the above new works, or works so re-constructed as to be practically new, repairs have been carried out at every station in Bechuanaland and the Protectorate where necessary.

XIII.—Patrols.

Constant patrols have been made throughout the area occupied by the police during the year, the total mileage of such patrols being approximately 267,376 miles.

XIV .- Out-stations.

The following out-stations have been occupied during the year:—

Northern Protectorate:—Headquarters Macloutsie, Lake N'Gami, Tati, Palapye, Selika, Rhodes' Drift, Palla, Grobellars Cross Roads, Saas' Post.

Southern Protectorate:—Headquarters Gaberones, Kanya,

Molopolole, Ramouka, Mochudi, Lequani, Sand Pits.

Bechuanaland:—Headquarters Mafeking, Vryburg, Taungs, Setlagoli, Schaapfontein, Kuruman, Genesa Longberg, Moroquin, Tweelings Pan, Dry Hartz, Ramatlabama, Pitsani, Maribogo, Mosete, Groot Chwaing, Gordonia, Zwaart Kop, Kakamas, Meer.

BRITISH Bachuana-Land. 1894-5. XV.—Arrests and Convictions.

I attach a statement* of the number of arrests made and convictions obtained by the police during the year.

XVI.—Health.

I attach reports* from the medical officers.

XVII.—Summary.

During the year the force has been reduced to its normal establishment.

The maintenance of law and order in a vast area of country thickly populated by natives is sufficient evidence that the work of the force has been performed in a satisfactory and intelligent manner.

Two hundred and fifty-six horses are shown as having died or been lost or claimed during the year. 168 of this number, however, became non-effective previous to the 1st April 1894, and, owing to the force being in the field, were unable to be included in the last annual report. The number, therefore, which have actually become non-effective during the year for which this report is compiled is 88. This comparatively small proportion of deaths is due mainly to the wise precaution of stationing the unsalted horses at Mafeking during the months in which the disease of horse sickness is most fatal, for, of the 88 shown as having been non-effective during the year, only four have died of horse sickness since November 27th, when the change of quarters took place.

The discipline of the force has been most satisfactory, and I desire to place on record my appreciation of the services of the officers and staff of the regiment.

R. GREY, Lieut.-Colonel, Commanding Bechuanaland Border Police.

18. REPORT on RURAL SCHOOLS, 1894-5.

SIR,

THE pending annexation of this territory to the Cape Colony and my own departure necessitate me to submit to you

my annual report earlier than usual.

When we compare the present state of education in this district with what it was four years ago we observe a marked progress. At that time about 20 children received regular instruction on the farms, while the average number attending the rural schools at present is 242. The liberal support of Government during the last three years has greatly promoted the cause of education.

A great deal more, however, remains to be done, for I take it that in this district only there are between 700 and 800 children of school-going age. Some of these are growing up in utter ignorance, except a meagre knowledge of the Dutch language.

British Bechuana-Land. 1894-5.

The district is a very large one. One of our schools is 54 miles, another 80, and still another 108 miles distant from the town of Vryburg. To meet the requirements, I think it will be necessary to appoint someone who will devote himself exclusively to awakening interest in education and organising schools.

In some localities we find a very poor class of people, and to bring education within the reach of these a more liberal provision will have to be made on the part of Government than the pound-

for-pound principle which has been in vogue here.

Owing to the scattered population in some parts, it will be impossible, for some time to come, at least, to establish fixed schools, which will be attended by a fair number of children, and I would suggest that itinerant teachers be appointed here. The difficulty of accommodation could be met by putting up a building of galvanised iron, which could be removed as the teacher changes his residence, and all who would benefit by such a school could assist in the erection of such a building. I may state that I tried it in one case and have reason to expect good results.

Four new schools have been opened since the beginning of this financial year, attended by a total of 75 pupils. Two of these schools have been established in the neighbourhood of Moroquin, where great interest has been shown by the farmers in the cause of education. I am confident that soon there will be a great demand for more schools, for a number of farmers have settled here within the last four months and large numbers are still "trekking" in.

A discouraging feature of the rural schools is the low standard which is considered sufficient and the short time which children are allowed at school. As a rule, the farmers are satisfied if their children can only read and write a little. The closing of three of our best attended schools this year is to be ascribed to this fact. In some cases the difficulty to procure labour is given as a reason for removing the children so soon, these being needed to

assist in farm work.

With the exception of two schools in the district, both the English and Dutch languages are taught. I consider it a favourable sign that the former aversion for English is dying out fast.

The want of accommodation for boarders and of suitable schoolrooms has been, and is still, a great drawback. Government aid in the erection of necessary buildings would serve as a great stimulus for the people to do more.

In classifying the pupils at the last inspection, I have still adhered to the old standards of the Department of Public Education, but have urged upon the teachers the necessity of taking the new standards as their basis of classification in future.

Government Grants.

BRITISH BECHUANA LAND. 1894-5.

A grant of 21. has been given for every pupil attending school in which both the English and Dutch languages are taught and a grant of about 11. for every pupil when only Dutch is taught.

I have further to state that in making these payments I have

also taken into consideration the progress of the pupils.

In addition to these grants, an allowance of 5s. was made for every pupil passing a higher standard than at the previous inspection.

Teachers.

The teachers employed in our schools are uncertificated, but it can hardly be expected that, with the present state of salaries, the services of better qualified persons will be procured. And I trust that, in the event of annexation, there will be no difficulty to have them acknowledged.

I beg to add to these remarks the results at the last inspection.

of the various schools.

I have &c.
DAVID WILCOCKS.

19. Annual Report on the Public Works Department, 1894-5.

SIR, Mafeking, April 27, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to submit my annual report for the financial year ending 31st March 1895. According to your instructions, the report is not to contain any "financial details," or "details of individual works;" nor is it to contain "any matter of purely local interest."

I am only able, therefore, to report generally of the work carried out in my department during the year 1894-5, and have much pleasure in being able conscientiously to state that a great deal of most useful work has been accomplished for a comparatively small amount of money.

During the year, I personally inspected every place in Bechuanaland (including Gordonia) where there was any kind of Government building; and also inspected all stations in the Protectorate as far as Palla (included).

I constantly visited all places where work was being carried out and supervised all repairs to roads, drifts, &c., outside the limits of the Vryburg Divisional Council.

All buildings in the Southern Protectorate (including Palla camp), as well as in Bechuanaland, have been put into repair. Owing to the nature of buildings, and the damages caused by storms and white ants, buildings require constant inspection, and in many cases repairs amounting practically to reconstruction. The recurrent vote must, therefore, always be heavy (in proportion to the

number of stations in the territory) until we have accomplished the replacing of the old wattle-daub and thatch huts by burnt brick, iron roofed. This is being rapidly carried out. During the year, very good new barracks, stables, and hospital have been built at Gaberones for one troop.

BRITISH BECHUANA LAND. 1894-5.

Stabling for 125 extra horses, in the form of temporary shelter, has been built here; and much has been done throughout the territory to improve and strengthen existing buildings. Details of new works have already been the subject of correspondence and are, therefore, by your desire, omitted from this report.

In conjunction with the Receiver General, it has always been my endeavour since I have been in this country to practise true economy in expending funds granted under the head of "Public works, extraordinary," by building in such a manner that with proper inspection and periodical minor repairs the buildings should last for some years. The only way to prevent damage by white ants is to build of stone, pointed in cement; our funds, however, never admit of this, which would, in the long run, be infinitely more economical than the present style.

Everything possible is done to minimise the destruction caused by this insect by putting in good stone foundations with tin on

the top; by using Jeyes fluid and paraffin for wood, &c.

The water schemes which I recommended for favourable consideration two years ago for Vryburg and Mafeking respectively have been successfully carried out. The estimate I made, after a series of observations, of the capacity of the spring at Mafeking has proved correct; although we had last summer an almost unprecedented drought until the end of March, the supply never diminished, but was ample for the requirements of the town, the camp, and the railway, while the water is of excellent quality.

The improvement in Vryburg is most marked since the water has been brought to the town, trees growing everywhere, and gardens flourishing in what before was barren and ugly waste

land

The Vryburg Village Management Board have at present, unfortunately, not had sufficient funds to carry out more than the irrigation portion of the alternative scheme proposed by me two years ago, but the dam is completed, and the reservoir and pipe service will follow in due course when money is available.

We have most successfully completed the fencing of over 30 miles of the boundary between Bechuanaland and the Transvaal, only fencing, however, between land occupied by natives and the

South African Republic.

I am more and more impressed every day, as I constantly travel on duty about the country, with the great importance of seriously tackling the question of devising some means of counteracting the pernicious effects of deforestation, the excessive clearance of forests which is slowly, or rather rapidly, going on every day for the benefit of the Kimberlev mines; it must

BRITISH BECHUANA-LAND, 1894-5. inevitably prove most disastrous some day to the economic and agricultural prosperity of Bechuanaland.

It has been shown that the great Russian famine of 1892 was mainly due to the dryness of the climate in summer arising from extensive deforestation during recent years (vide "Edinburgh Review," January, 1893, pp. 17-19).

May I most earnestly and most respectfully urge the Govern ment to take up this question? On the continent of Europe, as in the case of Bechuanaland, owing to the comparatively poor supply of coal, the retention of large wooded tracts for the purpose of supplying the general community with fuel has been long recognized as an absolute necessity, which has led, in many districts to the formation of large "ban-forests."

In this country we prevent the natives from cutting "green wood," but there is no restraint upon the white farmer, who has the right to denude his land of trees, while no obligation is laid

upon him in the matter of reforestation.

I presume that it is too late to check this, as there is no clause in the deeds by which the present holders secured their lands, and it is difficult to get the more ignorant white farmers to recognise the fact that, in their greed for present gains, they are ruining the future prospects of themselves and their successors.

I hope I shall not be considered officious in calling attention to this matter, which has doubtless been discussed, although I have never happened to hear of it. Could not exports of wood be taxed? It seems to me that this is the only way of putting a stop

to the present state of things.

I perhaps speak with undue warmth, but I am certain I do not overestimate the dangers to the national, economic, and agricultural prosperity of the country of the present deforestation.

I would recommend that 500l. per annum be granted from the public works extraordinary vote for formation of plantations wherever water, &c. are available, and this in a few years would

prove a most profitable investment.

One cannot help, in constantly travelling about the territory, being impressed with its (generally speaking) glorious climate and bright prospects, with its grand facilities for ranching, &c. and the more one becomes attached to the Colony the more one feels "the pity of it" that this evil should be permitted to continue.

I may say, in conclusion, that in addition to my regular duties during last financial year, I performed the duty of secretary to the Commission which sat in the Protectorate to decide upon the

delimitation of Khama's southern boundary.

I have, &c.

F. W. PANZERA, Major. Government Engineer Officer, British Bechuanaland.

To the Colonial Secretary, British Bechuanaland.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 159.

BRITISH GUIANA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894-5.

(For Report for 1893-4, see No. 133 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

	A STATE OF THE STA	ANNUAL	•			
No.		Colony.				Year.
123	Basutoland -					1893-4
124	St. Lucia					1893
125	St. Helena				-	,,
126	Ceylon				-	"
127	Fiji				-	,,
128	Grenada		-	-	-	"
129	Sierra Leone -			-	-	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	-	1.	-	-	1893-4
131	British New Guinea				•	1892–3 & 1893–4
132	Lagos				-	1893
133	British Guiana -				-	1893-4
134	Jamaica	-			-	99
135	Newfoundland -		• •		-	1893
136	Gold Coast -		•		-	,,,
137	Zululand	•	•	•	-	1894
138	Bermuda	-	30.	PARTY.	-	22
139	Bahamas	•		•	•	"
140	Barbados		•	-	-	"
141	Turks and Caicos Isla	nds -			-	"
142	Malta	-	111		•	"
143	Gambia		1.		-	"
144	Windward Islands -		•		-	22
145	Trinidad and Tobago				-	>>
146	Gibraltar				•	>>
147	Falkland Islands -	•			-	,,,
148	Hong Kong -	•			-	"
149	Straits Settlements -	1			-	"
150	Lagos	Constitution of	•		-	"
151	Seychelles -		A THE STATE OF THE			1894-5
152	Basutoland -		And property of the second		-	1894
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155	Ceylon -					"
156	Mauritius	- 11 Sept	The state of the s		-	"
157	Labuan -					"
158	Gold Coast -	•			Ħ.,	, ,,
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MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colon	у.		Subject.
1 2 3 4	Gold Coast Zululand Sierra Leone Canada -		-	Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany. Emigration.

No. 159.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1894-5.

3

BRITISH GUIANA.

(For Report for 1893-4, see No. 133.)

SIR C. C. LEES to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Georgetown, Demerara, October 14, 1895.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of the Colony of British Guiana for the year 1894-95, with the usual report thereon by the Assistant Government Secretary.

I have, &c.

C. C. LEES. Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1894-5.

TAXATION.

The commercial agreement with the United States, under which duties of customs were reduced or taken off American products as reciprocity for the admission of the sugars of the Colony duty free into the States, terminated in August 1894, and on the 14th September the Combined Court reimposed the duties levied prior to that agreement. At the annual session held in March 1895, the Court extended the operation of those duties for the ensuing year with certain alterations, amongst which may be mentioned the increase of the ad valorem duties from eight to ten per cent., the removal of the duty on beef and pork, the increase of the duty from \$1.20 to \$2 per lb. on cigars and cigarettes and from 45 cents to 90 cents per lb. on manufactured tobacco. Materials for use in railways and other works for the development of the country were placed on the free list.

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REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The year 1894-5 yielded a revenue of 588,245l., being less than that of the preceding year by 14,417l. but larger than the revenue of 1891-2 and 1892-3.

The principal items which show an increase are:-

		1893-4.	1894-5.	Cause.
Wines and spirits	ra	£ 45,847	£ 49,267	Large imports anticipating
Retail spirit licenses	-	80,152	83,699	higher duty. Extension of the licensing area.
Crown lands	-	885	1,830	Arrears of acre money collected.

while the heads under which loss chiefly occurs are-

	1893-4.	1894-5.	Cause.
	£	£	pering with the proper leave
General import duties	- 254,159	240,515	Reduced importations through general depression.
Rum duty	- 67,296	64,266	Reduced consumption.
Acreage tax -	- 8,302	3,737	Rate reduced. Part of sugar relief scheme.
Gold fees and licenses	- 2,805	1,948	Less activity in prospecting.
Royalty on gold -	- 25,969	24,936	Less gold obtained.
Interest	- 12,744	9,852	Consolidation, and extension of time for repayment, of loans, part of sugar relief scheme.

Expenditure.

The expenditure of the year amounted to 586,482*l*. being 19,649*l*. over that of the previous year. It was, however, kept within the revenue, which, as shown above, reached 588,245*l*.

The principal increases are to be found under the following heads:—

			1893-4.	1894-5.	Cause.
		n hay	£	£	
Public works	•	-	26,785	30,687	Works of maintenance and repairs.
Immigration -			40,888	44,717	Larger number of immigrants introduced.
Post Office -	-	•	25,976	27,113	Telegraph and telephone renewals.
Vaccination -	-	-	117	741	More energetic enforcement of vaccination.
Public debt -	-	•	45,491	48,140	Further provision for sinking funds and interest.

The only reductions which appear to call for remark are those under the following heads:—

BRITISH GUIANA. 1894-5.

	1893-4.	1894-5.	Cause.
	£	£	
Government agent, North West.	2,903	2,214	Some salaries now voted under Department of Mines.
Hospitals and asylums -	41,157	40,207	Economical administration.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debt of the Colony on 31st March 1895, was-

For sums borrowed for public purposes for which the
revenue of the Colony is directly pledged - 701,300
For sums borrowed by corporations or public bodies
under the authority of special laws, and on the
security of the revenue of the Colony - 155,279

the total amount for which the revenue of the Colony is pledged being therefore 856,579*l*. less by 20,296*l*. than on the corresponding date in 1894.

But from out of the first mentioned sum there has been lent to corporations and public bodies on security of their revenues a sum of 296,559l., and therefore the amount by which the total public debt is reduced by loans repayable is really 451,838l., leaving a public debt, for money borrowed and spent on public works, of 404,741l.

The following is a statement of loans and advances referred to in the last paragraph —

To the mayor and town council of Georgetown - 105,416

To the mayor and town council of New Amsterdam - 18,645

To Commissioners in aid of water supply works - 133,239

Miscellaneous loans recoverable - - - 39,259

The sum of 20,296% referred to above represents bonds to that extent which matured and were paid off

Full provision for sinking funds and interest in respect of all loans raised by the Government is made annually.

IMPORTS.

The following statement shows the principal articles of food imported during the year 1894-95, as compared with the preceding twelve months:—

	1893-	94.	1894-	95.	1894-95.	Decrease in Quantity.	
Articles Imported.	Quantity.	Value,	Quantity.	Value.	Increase in Quantity.		
Beef, pickled brls.	8,070	£ 21,013	11,814	£ 29,028	3,744	_	
Bread lbs.	671,100	5,492	654,378	5,862	-	16,722	
Butter ,,	516,129	22,205	647,361	25,982	131,232	-	
Corn and pulse - bushls.	171,329	34,264	162,794	32,132	Carlo State	8,535	
Cornmeal and oatmeal lbs.	1,632,078	5,536	1,485,374	5,070	-	146,704	
Fish, dried - cwt.	65,697	61,901	69,074	62,524	3,377	-	
Flour brls.	205,355	155,350	203,254	147,812		2,101	
Lard lbs.	386,106	6,897	386,242	6,151	136	-	
Onions "	3,616,465	9,276	3,282,346	7,859	77-19	334,119	
Pork brls.	19,256	65,511	19,265	55,280	9	-	
Rice lbs.	39,418,040	168,531	33,219,824	138,876	-	6,198,216	

The period of agricultural and commercial depression through which the Colony is now passing, has naturally left its mark on the imports, which fell off in value by 251,960*l*.—the actual figures being 1,668,750*l*. for 1894-5, against 1,920,710*l*. for the previous year.

EXPORTS.

The following is a comparative statement of the value of exports in the years 1893-94 and 1894-95, showing the increase or decrease in 1894-95, on each item of export:—

A	ticles.				Va	lue.			Increase.	Decrease.
Al	vicies.		1893-	94.		1894-	-95.		1894-95.	1894-95.
Sugar -			£ 1,568,520	s. 12	d. 1	£ 1,246,894	s. 2	d. 5	£ _s. d	£ s. d. 321,626 9 8
Rum -			121,584	1	9	97,781	2	7	1 2 1	23,802 19 2
Molasses		-	33,625	9	9	20,649	4	71		12,976 5 1
Gold -			510,710	0	01	496,899	8	6		13,810 11 6
Timber			15,488	14	7	16,985	2	0	1,496 7 5	-
Charcoal	Kara T		9,246	13	9	8,344	15	4	and the second	901 18 5

(continued)

EXPORTS—continued.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1894-5.

7

Article.	Va	lue.	Increase.	Decrease.
AI ulcie.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1893-94.	1894-95.
Gum, Balata	£ s. d. 8,283 2 6	£ s. d. 11,483 5 5	£ s. d. 3,200 2 11	£ s. d.
Do. other	82 3 4	110 6 0	28 2 8	_
Shingles	1,226 2 7	2,444 17 81	1,218 15 11	
Hides	1,642 12 3	1,675 12 9	33 0 6	
Cocoanuts	171 15 10	3 2 6	-	168 13 4
Chocolate	2,387 17 3	827 17 5		1,559 19 10
Cocoa	110 5 0	2,719 6 11	2,609 1 11	_
Isinglass	293 10 8	300 8 3	6 17 7	
Cattle and live stock	876 13 4	2,734 17 6	1,858 4 2	10 Mars - 10 - 17
Bread and biscuits	154 9 7	126 7 81/2	_	28 1 10½
Firewood	128 18 10	121 17 6	-	7 1 4
Fibre	86 18 0	71 3 41	-	15 14 71
Lumber	364 0 11	325 18 10	_	38 2 1
Plaintains	14 16 8	44 7 11	29 11 3	_
Coffee	446 13 4	236 11 8		210 1 8
Miscellaneous - •	843 13 01	695 3 3	-	148 9 91/2
Corn and pulse	18 15 0	22 10 0	3 15 0	_
Total Colonial produce -	2,276,308 0 1	1,911,497 10 2	10,483 18 61/2	375,294 8 5½
Total Foreign produce -	82,610 6 41	128,403 11 7	A CARRY STATE	Late
Total Exports -	2,358,918 6 5½	2,039,901 1 9		
Net decrease, Colonial produce, 1894–95	-	-		364,810 9 11
Net increase, Foreign produce, 1894-95	_	-	45,793 5 21/2	_
	2,358,918 6 51	2,039,901 1 9		319,017 4 8½

The decrease in the value of the exports is due to the serious fall in the price realised for the staple products of the Colony. While the production was but 5,269 tons of sugar 102,012 gallons of molasses and 64,740 gallons of rum less than in the preceding year, the loss in value to the Colony amounted to 358,4051. amount of gold produced was also less by 4,480 oz. These articles of export will be treated more fully under the heads of agriculture and mines.

The following comparative statement shows the direction and value of the trade of the Colony in 1893-94 and 1894-95.

				Imp	oorts.	Exports.		
Countr			1893-94.	1894–95.	1893-94.	1894-95.		
United Kingdom			1.	£ 1,046,862	£ 882,389	£ 1,234,205	£ 1,273,946	
United States -			-	481,333	435,786	898,464	597,287	
British N. America			-	89,809	96,997	98,869	26,412	
British W. Indies			-	68,250	47,752	32,085	38,149	
Bermuda			-	1,627	721	2,068	1,438	
East Indies -				151,957	112,261	1,632	237	
oreign countries oth States -	ner the	n Un	ited	79,057	92,844	91,575	102,229	
African possessions	4		-	423		-	_	
Newfoundland -			•	1,392	-	-	203	
	То	ta!		1,920,710	1,668,750	2,358,918	2,039,901	

SHIPPING.

The following statement shows the number of vessels entered and cleared at the ports of the Colony during the year 1894-5:—

			Entered	Cleared.				
Ports.		No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews	
Steam Vessels:— Georgetown, Demerara -		242	211,196	8,737	244	211,118	8,706	
New Amsterdam, Berbice	-	4	3,685	109	15	14,754	, 385	
North-Western District -		_			-		_	
Totals	*	246	214,881	8,846	259	225,872	9,091	
Sailing vessels:— Georgetown, Demerara	1	453	107,179	3,966	465	111,385	4,066	
New Amsterdam, Berbice	-	22	5,456	167	27	6,388	203	
North-Western District -	-	*38	57	44	-	_	-	
Totals	-	513	112,692	4,177	492	117,773	4,269	
Total steam and sailing vessels	-	759	327,573	13,023	751	343,645	13,360	

^{*} These are small boats entering the Port of Barima. Clearance statistics have not been kept.

The following comparative table for the years 1893-4 and 1894-5 distinguishes steam from sailing vessels:—

Vessels.			18	393-4.	18	894-5.	Increa	se, 1894-5.	Decrease, 1894-5		
			No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
Entered:		The							in the		
Steam vessels		٠.	225	193,459	246	214,881	-		21	21,422	
Sailing vessels			554	131,360	513	112,692	41	18,668	-		
Totals	٠	•	779	324,819	759	327,573	41	18,668	21	21,422	
Cleared:-											
Steam vessels			225	193,627	259	225,872	_	_	34	32,245	
Sailing vessels			515	130,082	492	117,773	23	12,309	_		
Totals			740	323,709	751	343,645	23	12,309	34	32,245	

LOCAL REVENUES.

Georgetown on the Demerara river (population 53,000) and New Amsterdam on the Berbice river (population 8,903) are the two principal towns in the Colony, and their affairs are administered by municipal councils, who receive grants in aid from the general revenue of 4,166l. and 1,041l. respectively. The Combined Court which met in March voted special grants of 2,083l. and 520l. respectively, in aid of the sanitary improvement of the towns for the ensuing year, which were in addition to the ordinary grants.

The revenues of Georgetown amounted to 51,555l., and the expenditure to 52,219l.; the principal source of revenue was a tax of two per cent. on the value of all house property, which yielded 27,986l. Expenditure on bonds redeemable and interest account amounted to 11,622l. The fire brigade was maintained at a cost of 4,952l., half of which was borne by the Government, and the streets were lit by electricity at a cost of 3,080l.

In New Amsterdam the revenue for the year was 7,667l., and the expenditure 7,820l., exclusive of loan account, from which certain water works improvements are being defrayed. A tax of two per cent. on house property brought in 3,596l. Roads, bridges, and drainage cost 2,018l, and street lighting 277l.

Nineteen villages, with a population of 31,055, conducted their own affairs by means of village councils and raised revenues amounting to 4,671l. 3,318l. were spent on drainage; 545l. on roads, dams, and bridges, and 1,413l. on salaries and contingencies. A sum of 2,083l is voted from general revenue and is at the disposal of the Central Board of Health, to meet urgent and unforeseen expenses. At the close of the year, the unexpended balance, about one-half, was distributed amongst those villages which stood most in need of sanitary works, &c.

IMMIGRATION.

The immigration from India was unusually large, 7,160 labourers having been introduced during the year. They were composed of 4,351 males, 1,706 females, 162 children and 941 infants. Those who returned to India numbered 1,998, and they took with them savings amounting to 19,678*l*. in money, and 3,927*l*. in jewellery.

The following table shows the East Indian immigrant population of the Colony on the 31st March 1895:—

-			м.	F.	Total.
Indentured -		-	15,858	6,512	22,370
Unindentured -	-	-	22,078	12,853	34,931
Children -		-	9,126	7,614	16,740
Total on estat	es -		47,062	26,979	74,041
Approxima	e num	ber not	residing on esta	tes	41,588
					115,629

These immigrants had to their credit in the Government Savings Banks at the close of the year 117,299l., a little over a pound a head. They owned 13,762 cattle and 3,380 sheep.

Every facility is afforded to the coolie for communicating with his friends and relatives in India, and a supply of Indian postage stamps is available for their use; 3,023 letters were forwarded though the Immigration Department during the year, and 1,315 were registered at the Post Office. 1,674 Post Office orders were issued remitting a total 3,880l. In addition to this a further sum of 571l. was remitted by the Government to the nearest of kin of immigrants who had died in the Colony.

The consolidated Immigration Ordinance of 1891, which had not been allowed pending the consideration of the report on his visit to this Colony by Surgeon-Major Comins, Protector of Immigrants of Calcutta, came into force on the 1st November. The Government of India have expressed "their gratification at the "excellence of the arrangements for the convenience and comfort of the immigrants during their term of indenture."

PUBLIC WORKS.

No new works of any importance were constructed during the year as a charge against current revenue, but the ordinary maintenance, repairs, and additions amounted to 30,968l Amongst the

principal items are; bridges, 1,500l., Government House grounds, 1,256l.; hospitals, 2,296l.; old military buildings, now used by the police and militia, 2,297l.; prisons, 1,832l.; police stations, 2,748l., and sea defences, 2,345l.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1894-5. 175

Public works, amounting in the whole to 6,210l., were charged to loan account. Amongst those completed may be mentioned a wing of the Berbice almshouse for females, a court house at Bartica for the magistrate of the district, and a police station at Bagotville on the west bank of the River Demerara.

AGRICULTURE.

The following is a comparative statement of the quantities and gross value of sugar, rum, and molasses exported in 1893-4 and 1894-5:—

				1898	3-4,	1894–5.			
		Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.				
				Tons.	£	Tons.	£		
Sugar -		-	-	107,771 Galls.	1,568,520	102,502 Galls.	1,246,894		
Rum -		-	-	1,994,550	121,584	1,892,538	97,781		
Molasses	10		-	1,202,700	33,625	1,137,960	20,649		

The average prices prevailing in 1893-4 and 1894-5 are also shown below:—

	are affect							1893-4.			1894-5.		
Sugar v	acuum pan,	sold in	n Uni	ited				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	Kingdom efining, sold	-	-	-	per	ton		14	18	41/2	13	7	01/2
	States	•		-	per	ton		14	10	11	11	5	$4\frac{1}{2}$
,, M	Iolasses	-	~ =	-	•	-	-	11	15	$11\frac{1}{2}$	10	7	11
Rum -		-	-	-	per pu	nche	on	6	1	11	5	3	4

This serious fall in the value of the staple product of the Colony, after prices had already reached the lowest point at which it was considered that sugar could profitably be made, caused grave concern, not only to proprietors of sugar estates, but also to that large body of colonists whose interests were more or less bound up in the sugar industry. So gloomy, indeed, became the outlook that on the 27th July 1894 a large and representative

British Guiana. 1894-5. committee of the Combined Court was appointed "to report to the "Court in what manner some means of relief in immigration and "other matters can be extended to the owners of sugar estates." The labours of the committee were onerous and prolonged, and evidence was taken from all classes of the community. The recommendations of the committee were subsequently adopted by the Combined Court and received the sanction of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies in all material points. They included:—

- (1.) The limitation of the number of immigrants to be introduced annually to 5,000;
- (2.) The reduction for three years of the planters' share of the cost of immigration to one-third instead of the two-thirds previously borne by them;
- (3.) The abolition of the 50 cents per acre paid by the planters in consideration of the benefits received by them through the McKinley Tariff agreement;
- (4.) The extension of the time for payment of existing immigration notes over double the period for which they at present run; and,
- (5.) A like extension of the periods for payment of the instalments of the various water supply loans.

The total relief thus afforded to the sugar industry was estimated at 63,464l., of which the general revenue was called upon to provide 49,000l., but this relief, which amounted roughly to 12s. per ton of sugar, was not sufficient to counterbalance the great fall in value, and rigid economy became necessary, and has been practised, in the management of sugar estates. A somewhat lessened demand for labour in the goldfields has enabled the sugar grower to obtain his non-indentured labour at slightly reduced rates, and on the whole the labourer has accepted the position with equanimity. A fall in the price of ground provisions of 20 to 30 per cent. has to some extent compensated for the lower weekly wage.

Taking the year as a whole, it may be said that while a few of the more favourably situated estates have made a profit, the majority have not been enabled to make two ends meet, and many have suffered severe losses.

MINES.

Attention is being centred more and more, both from without and within the Colony, upon the gold production of British Guiana and her undeveloped mineral riches.

The exports of gold for the past three years are given below:-

BRITISH GUIANA. 1894-5.

	Year.				Gold.	Value.
1892-3				-	Ozs. 134,124	£ 492,937
1893-4	-		-	-	138,527	510,710
1894-5	-			-	134,047	496,879

The cause of the slight falling off last year is not difficult to find. The first rush has subsided. Costly and wildly speculative expeditions are no longer impulsively shot off to explore a vast untrodden area of forest and swamp in search of the precious metal. of so-called prospectors find less credence. The gold-bearing districts of the Colony are becoming better defined, and generally the industry may be said to be settling down, day by day, on a more substantial basis. If the gold produced last year has not reached the yield of the year before, there can at least be little doubt that it has cost proportionately less to obtain it. It may be added, too, that in 1893 the available local capital and labour supply had been taxed to their limit, and if the Colony were dependent on herself alone for these two factors the progress and development of the gold industry might be but moderate. Fortunately, however, there are many indications that both capital and labour are being attracted to our shores.

The willing co-operation of the Crown Agents for the Colonies and the courtesy of Messrs. Mappin and Webb, and Messrs. Howell and James, enabled a fine collection of gold quartz, nuggets, and dust, to be exhibited last year in the City and Regent Street branches of those firms. The immediate result of this object lesson on the mineral wealth of the Colony was the formation of a company in London with subscribed English capital to the extent of 100,000l., for the purpose of purchasing and developing certain mining properties in the north-west district.

As regards local efforts in the more important direction of quartz crushing, there is not much to chronicle. The pioneer company, after working for a few months, exhausted its capital, and the shareholders resolved to wind it up. In most of the reports on the property the opinion was expressed that the extent of development was not sufficient to decide whether the mine was a paying one or not.

The conglomerate which forms the immense plateau above the Kaiteur Fall and around the upper river has long been supposed to contain gold, but samples which have been brought to Georgetown from time to time have given varying results. A Government expedition has been despatched for the purpose of thoroughly exploring the spot and settling the question if possible. If gold be found there in paying quantities, then, with the water power

BRITISH GUIANA. 1894-5. afforded by a fall higher than Niagara and half as broad, it will be difficult to estimate the riches of the district.

Funds have also been provided for the survey and construction of roads from the Barima to the Barama rivers in the north-west district, and from the Potaro river to the gold fields on the Mahdia and Conawaruk creeks in the Essequebo, and these works are proceeded with. Transport on the rock-impeded Cuyuni is also being facilitated by the construction of portages at the more dangerous rapids, and bills which have since become law have been introduced to sanction the construction of two lines of railway communicating with the mines in the north-west district.

1,823 placers and 166 mining claims were located in 1894-5, and the following table shows the gold production of the several districts as entered at the Department of Mines:—

					Oz.
Barima -	-		WI - 374		30,186
Barama -	-		-	-	3,880
Cuyuni -	-		-	-	29,661
Groete creek	-	-		-	181
Puruni -	-		-		4,230
Mazaruni	-	-	, i i - i - i	-	4,798
Essequebo			-	-	33,504
Potaro -			-	-	25,933
Demerara	-				621
					132,994
				-	

A large and influential commission sat during the latter part of the year to revise the regulations and make suggestions for the development of the industry. They had not concluded their labours when the year closed.

There is a very useful pamphlet written by Mr. H. I. Perkins, the Assistant Crown Surveyor, which contains full information on most points of interest to capitalists or others embarking in the gold industry of British Guiana. Copies are obtainable at the Government Land Department in Georgetown at a cost of one shilling each.

GRANTS OF LAND.

With a more plentiful labour supply there appears to have been a revival of woodcutting operations and the cultivation of small holdings. 12,439 acres were licensed for woodcutting, and 5,723 were taken up for cultivation purposes, 3,062 acres were purchased outright, in most cases at the upset price of \$1 per acre.

Only 22 Ballata grants were taken out, against 77 for the previous year, but the value of the export of this article arose from 8,283l. to 11,483l.

POLITICAL FRANCHISE.

British Guiana. 1894-5.

Under this head there is nothing noteworthy to chronicle beyond a slight increase in the number of voters on the register,—2,479 against 2,388 for the preceding year. There has been no political agitation of any sort, and the only elections during the year, those of a member of the Court of Policy for New Amsterdam and a financial representative for the South-Eastern Division of Essequebo, were uncontested.

LEGISLATION.

Nineteen Ordinances were passed during the year and many important measures were dealt with. Amongst them may be mentioned the simplification of the enforcement of compulsory vaccination; an amendment of the mining law and the extension of the powers of arrest and search in suspected cases; a reconstitution of the public officers' guarantee fund; amendment and simplification of the law regulating the manufacture of spirits; amendment of the immigration law in the direction of requiring a contribution from immigrants availing themselves of their rights to back packages; and the better prevention of shipping casualties.

While this legislation was proceeding in the Colony, the Attorney General, Dr. Carrington, C.M.G., Q.C., was engaged in England on a new and revised edition of the Statute Law of the Colony. This important work, now completed, embracing the years between 1774 and 1895, is contained in four volumes of some 800 pages each, while a fifth supplies a copious index and chronological table.

EDUCATION.

The principal educational establishment of the Colony is the Queen's College in Georgetown. It is a Government Institution, and the course of instruction is the same as that of a public school or first grade grammar school in England. There were 113 students at the close of the year. At the Cambridge local examination held in December 1894, 21 students passed, seven of these taking honours. A scholarship is granted annually on the results of the Cambridge local, and is of the value of 2001. per annum, tenable for three years, or, if the scholar select the medical profession, 1501. per annum, tenable for five years, with a free passage to England and back in either case.

The Saffon school is an endowed institution for the support and education of "ten children, orphans, or half orphans, natives of this "Colony, without distinction of sex, but born in lawfuul marriage, and who in the case of the death of any of them will be replaced for ever by others."

BRITISH GUIANA. 1894-5. The Mitchell bequest which was originally inadequate to carry out the testator's wishes has been accumulating at interest for many years and has at length taken the form of two scholarships, one for boys and one for girls. They are awarded annually, are tenable for four years at any school approved by the Governor in Council, and are of the value of 15l. a year.

Primary education was conducted as hitherto by State-aided denominational schools, and a gratifying progress can be recorded. The number of State-aided schools has increased by seven and now stands at 204, the grants earned amounted to 19,307l. 17s. 1d. as against 18,798l. 11s. 2d.; the numbers of pupils on the books and in average attendance were respectively 28,002 and 15,445, also a proportionate increase and the cost to the Colony per child examined, exclusive of the establishment, was 1l. 0s. 2½d. against 1l. 1s. 2d. last year.

The inspector of schools writes:—"In the year 1889, the year previous to my arrival, the number of scholars presented for examination was 14,053, and the annual grants amounted to 24,993l. 19s. 7d. In 1894–95 the number of scholars examined was 19,094, an increase of 5,041, at a cost of 19,307l. 17s. 1d., or 5,685 13s. 6d. less."

An open competitive examination was held in December for the five scholarships awarded to aided primary schools, and 22 of the competitors obtained the minimum number of marks required for a scholarship. The scholarship offered to private schools was not won by any of the competitors.

POLICE AND MILITIA.

The defensive forces of the Colony consist of a semi-military armed force of police and a Militia under one command.

The former, including officers, non-commissioned officers and men, numbered 730 and is maintained at an annual cost of 62,491l. The Militia consists of 293 rank and file and a band 24 strong with 12 apprentices. It was maintained in 1894–5, including the band, at a cost of 5,044l—but this sum varies with its numerical strength. A small capitation allowance is granted for the more important drills and when called out on duty for guards of honour, &c.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Charles Cameron Lees, K.C.M.G., was absent from the Colony from the 13th December 1894, to the 30th January 1895. The Hon. Cavendish Boyle C.M.G., administered the Government.

Sir David Patrick Chalmers, Chief Justice, retired on pension

and was succeeded by Sir Edward Loughlin O'Malley.

The Commissaries Department has been abolished as a separate department, and the duties which formerly pertained to it have

been undertaken by the Receiver-General and the Controller of Customs, the charge of the distilleries falling to the latter and the former becoming responsible for the collection of the excise and the maintenance of the public roads. The immediate saving on the year's estimate of expenditure is some 2,000*l*. and a further reduction is anticipated. No change calling for special comment took place in any other department.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1894-5.

PENSIONS.

Two pensions, amounting to 396l, per annum, fell in during the year and six pensioners were added to the list with pensions aggregating to 2,346l. The pension list now stands at 14,606l, per annum.

THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' FUND.

This fund is formed from an abatement of four per cent. made from the salaries of all public officers. Its revenue for the year was 10,103*l*., and its expenditure 10,629*l*. 110 widows and 29 children are receiving pensions from the fund. The number of officers contributing is 511, of whom 332 are married.

POPULATION.

There was again a regrettable excess of deaths over births, the numbers being respectively 9,377 and 6,957, but the immigration from India of 7,160 labourers (less 1,998 who returned) resulted in a net increase to the population of 2,742, and the recorded total at the close of the year was 281,021. There is also a small but unrecorded influx of labour from the West Indian Islands.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The prosperity of the years 1890 to 1893 had caused a progressive diminution in the criminal statistics, but the harder times of the year under review have resulted in a slight increase all round, except, happily, in the more serious offences against the person, where there has been a considerable reduction. 12,118 offences were reported to the police, against 10,417 in the preceding year. The summary convictions in the Magistrates' courts arose from 11,500 to 13,299, while in the Supreme Court they fell from 166 to 151.

The total number committed to prison was 6,562 (5,391 men and 1,171 women, as compared with 4,639 and 982 respectively in the previous year). No juveniles are returned as having been committed, which is satisfactory, as they numbered 115 in the two

previous years.

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BRITISH GUIANA. 1894-5.

The daily average in prison was-			
Penal settlement, Massaruni		-	274
Georgetown Prison -	-		283
New Amsterdam Prison			66
Suddie	-	-	75

The prisons of the Colony were maintained at a cost of 6,256l. and the value of the prisoners' labour is estimated at 9,313l.

Nine prisoners escaped, and eight were re-captured. Whipping was inflicted five times for prison offences, and fifteen times by order of the courts.

HOSPITALS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

The following table shows the numbers admitted and treated in the five public hospitals of the Colony:—

	Remaining	Discharged.					Daily
	at beginning of year 1894-5.	Admitted in 1894-5.	Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	Died.	average in 1894–5.
Georgetown -	707	8,493	3,610	3,312	520	1,177	643
New Amsterdam	119	1,800	530	744	298	224	119
Suddie	48	1,209	259	711	101	123	55
Bartica	22	364	168	147	0	55	14
Morawhanna -	28	545	423	77	11	40	26
Total -	924	12,411	4,990	4,991	930	1,619	

Out-patients to the number of 58,047 also received treatment at the public hospitals. The diseases are chiefly malarial, and dysenteric, but affections of the kidneys, liver, and brain are also common.

Hitherto the public hospitals have been practically free to all, but during the year an effort was made to restrict their benefits to those who were unable to pay for medical treatment and medicines, and a system of recommendation tickets from clergymen and others who come more or less in contact with the labouring classes has been sanctioned by the legislature.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The lunatic asylum in Berbice contained a daily average of 630 patients of both sexes and of various nationalities. The buildings stand in extensive grounds which afford ample employment for all accustomed to agricultural labour. 158 fresh cases were admitted during the year, 71 were discharged and 71 died.

19

The classification was as follows:-

BRITISH GUIANA. 1894-5. 183

ing in the <u>line</u> is to		Males.	Females.	Total.
Maniacal and dangerous -	med but	70	42	112
Quiet chronic	1000	254	140	394
Melancholy and suicidal -	-	45	21	66
Idiotic, paralytic and epileptic -		30	28	58
Total		399	231	630

LEPER ASYLUMS.

The asylum for males at Mahaica and that for females at Gorchum contained respectively 254 and 89 inmates on the 31st March 1895. During the year there had been 61 admissions and 65 deaths. 34 had absconded and 12 natives of India had been sent back to their country. The disease took the following forms:—

	_		Males.	Females.
Anæsthetic		-	156	45
Tubercular	7-4	-	47	18
Mixed -		-	51	12
Total		-	254	75

Four children were born during the year, and 14 non-leprous children were in the asylum at its close. Every effort is made to get these latter taken care of by relatives not in the asylums.

The project of establishing a leper community on one of the islands in the Essequebo river was found to be beset with difficulties as regards administration, communication and cost, and has finally been abandoned. In the meantime, however, the buildings at Mahaica and Gorchum have been maintained at the barest expenditure practicable and extensive repairs will now be necessary. The decision referred to above is the result of the conclusions arrived at by committees of the Court of Policy and Combined Court which sat during the year.

ALMS HOUSES,

There are two almshouses, one in Georgetown and one in New Amsterdam, containing together about 900 inmates. The expenditure on poor relief, including the maintenance of the almshouses, amounts to 19,000l.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1894-5.

POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

There was again a general increase of postal and telegraph business in all branches. The number of articles posted rose from 1,835,000 to 1,932,000, and value of local money orders from 28,261*l*. to 29,958*l*. The Foreign money order business increased with the United States and Barbados and fell off with the United Kingdom and Trinidad. The parcel post was more largely used with the United Kingdom, but the business done with other countries remained stationary.

Two more post offices, three telegraph offices, and four money order offices were established during the year in outlying districts.

There was no extension of the Government telephone service, which has some 420 subscribers.

Much trouble was experienced with the telegraph cables during the year. The formation of the beds of the rivers and the exposure to damage from anchors or sunken trees carried along by the tide appear to render our cables peculiarly susceptible to injury, and costly to maintain For some months, communication with Bartica, the point of departure for most of the gold diggings, was interrupted, and so firmly was the cable inbedded in the "caddy," that it long resisted all efforts to restore communication.

SAVINGS BANKS.

The general depression which existed throughout the year has naturally affected the Treasury savings banks although scarcely to the extent which might have been expected. The number of depositors is practically the same, 14,952, but the amount deposited, 157,964l., is less by 7,000l. than in the previous year; the amount withdrawn, 171,247l., greater by a like sum than in the previous year, while for the first time for many years the amount standing to the credit of depositors, 255,742l., has shrunk by some 6,000l.

The Post Office savings banks, from their popularity and efficiency, continue to justify the experiment of their establishment. There are now 18 of them, two having been opened during the year. The number of depositors rose from 3,120 to 4,200 and the amount at their credit increased from 16,534l. to 20,610l., the greater portion of which is invested in Government securities. The revenue amounted to 633l. 15s. and the expenditure to 468l. This increase of business is not responsible for the decrease in the Treasury savings banks, for the latter attract a wholly different class of customer.

RAILWAYS, CANALS, ROADS AND TELEGRAPHS.

It was hoped that some substantial progress in railway extensions might have been reported this year, but the little line from

Georgetown to Mahaica which runs along the east coast, still remains the only railway which the Colony possesses. The Demerara Railway Company have undertaken to extend it to Blairmont on a Government guarantee of interest on the capital to be raised, but the details of the contract have not yet been settled.

British Guiana. 1894-5.

Difficulties also arose as regards the contract with the Sproston Dock and Foundry Company for the construction of a railway to connect the Demerara and Essequebo rivers. These have now been disposed of and at the date of writing the works of clearing the ground and laying out the course of the line are being proceeded with. This line is intended to facilitate access to the gold-diggings in the Upper Essequebo river and its tributary streams, as it will cross from the Demerara to the Essequebo above the falls in the latter river.

The wants of the north-west district have also attracted the attention of capitalists, and laws have been passed sanctioning the construction by private firms of two lines of railway from the right bank of the Barima River to the mines and placer workings inland.

Roads.

The Government maintained 175 miles of public road at a cost of 17,973l. and the proprietors of sugar estates were charged with the upkeep of 101 miles, towards which they received a grant from general revenue of 6,863l. The roads of the Colony are in excellent order: usually built up of burnt earth, they are as clean and level as a bicycle track.

Telegraphs.

The Government telegraph runs along the coast and up the inhabited portions of the rivers for 424 miles, of which 54 miles were added during the year. The north-west district is the only inhabited portion of the Colony which is not connected with Georgetown by telegraph, the large expenditure both for construction and maintenance which such a construction would involve having prevented it.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The rainfall was much lower than it had been for some years, being only 87 inches as compared with previous rainfalls of over 100 inches. The temperature on the coast lands ranged from 74 in the cool months to 85 in the hot.

22

BRITISH GUIANA. 1894-95.

GENERAL.

The varied interests of the Colony have been touched on under the several heads, and there remains but little to add. The year 1894-5 has been one of depression, which has affected all classes of the community. The confident expectation in many quarters that a brighter day will dawn for sugar and that the present low prices cannot continue, has not prevented attention being given to the other agricultural resources of the Colony. Minor industries, including the growing of rice, are being discussed. Unity of action is more generally recognised; an instance being the establishment of a Farmers' Association as an attempt to do away with the middleman in the sale of ground provisions, and thus at once cheapen the cost to the consumer and increase the profits of the grower. Enterprise has been shown in the economical and skilled application of scientific methods to established industries, and there are generally indications that the courage and perseverance which have distinguished the Colonists of British Guiana for a century have not failed them at the present juncture.

CHARLES T Cox,
Assistant Government Secretary.

Guiana Public Buildings, September 16, 1895.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 162.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893 see No. 116 of this Series.)]

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.		Colony.				Year.
125	St. Helena	-	-			1893
126	Ceylon			-		"
127	Fiji		-			"
128	Grenada					"
129	Sierra Leone -		-	-	-	"
130	British Bechuanaland	-		-	-	1893-4
131	British New Guinea		•	-		1892-3 &
						1893-4
132	Lagos			-	-	1893
133	British Guiana -		-			1893-4
134	Jamaica	-	-	-		. ,,
135	Newfoundland -	-	XIII .			1893
136	Gold Coast	-	-	-		,,,
137	Zululand	-		-	-	1894
138	Bermuda		-		•	"
139	Bahamas		-			>>
140	Barbados			-		"
141	Turks and Caicos Isla	nds -		-	-	,,
142	Malta		-		-	22
143	Gambia	-		-	-	"
144	Windward Islands -	-		-		"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	-	-	-		22
146	Gibraltar		-	-		"
147	Falkland Islands -		-	-	-	"
148	Hong Kong -			-	-	99
149	Straits Settlements -	-		•		"
150	Lagos					22
151	Seychelles	-	-	-		"
152	Basutoland		-			1894-5
153	Fiji	-		•		1894
154	St. Helena	•			•	"
155	Ceylon		-	-	•	"
156	Mauritius		-			"
157	Labuan	-	- A		•	"
158	Gold Coast -	-	-			,,,
159	British Guiana -				-	1894-5
160	Sierra Leone -	-				1894
161	Jamaica			-		1894-5

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colon	у.		Subject.
1 2 3 4	Gold Coast Zululand - Sierra Leone Canada -		:	Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany. Emigration.

No. 162.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

[For Reports for 1893 see No. 116.]

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1894.

ADMINISTRATOR SWEET-ESCOTT to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Belize,

SIR, September 30, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Report on the Blue Book of the Colony of British Honduras for the year 1894 by Mr. W. J. McKinney, C.M.G., the Acting Colonial Secretary.

2. I regret that it should be necessary once again to apologise for the delay in the transmission of this Report and of the Blue Book itself, but the latter, though compiled some time back, even now is not ready to be forwarded, owing to the pressure of work

in the Government printing office.

3. The accompanying report is considerably shorter than those for the years 1891, 1892, and 1893, but this is principally due to the exhaustive character of the reports for the three years named, making it unnecessary that details should be given under several headings in the report for 1894, and to the impossibility of drawing any exact comparison between the financial position of the Colony at the end of 1894 and that at the close of 1893, in consequence of the change in the currency which took place on the 15th October 1894, and the method which had to be adopted of converting to the new standard of value the revenue and expenditure up to the 14th of that month. A few general remarks from me in supplement of the Acting Colonial Secre-

tary's Report may not, however, be out of place.

4. Up to the year 1885, the revenue and expenditure of the Colony were given in the annual Blue Book in £ s. d., but from 1886 onwards they appear in dollars and cents. By the Queen's Proclamation of the 15th September 1887 the standard of value became the Guatemalan dollar, the value of which fluctuated between 3s. 1d. at the beginning of 1888 and 2s. in 1894. It will be easily seen, therefore, excluding from consideration goods liable to an ad valorem duty, how great has been the annual loss of revenue from Customs dues to the Government by the gradual depreciation of the Guatemalan dollar or sol, whilst even in the case of goods paying ad valorem duty there has also been a considerable loss, seeing that the Treasury rating of the sol has invariably been higher than its actual exchange value. example, in 1893 and 1894 the Treasury rates were fixed at 2s. 9d. and 2s. 5d. respectively, whilst the actual exchange value fell in June 1893 to 2s., and has not risen since, except during

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British Honduras. 1894. one or two months, above that amount. It is difficult, therefore, to compare, with the view of gauging the actual prosperity of the Colony, the figures under revenue and expenditure, or imports and exports for 1894 with any of the years from 1886 onwards. It will not, however, be altogether unfair to institute a comparison between the financial position of the Colony at the end of 1894 and at the end of each previous decade for the last 50 years, as shown by the following table, and for this purpose I have converted the revenue and expenditure, and the value of the imports and exports for last year into £ s. d.:—

Year. Re		Revenue.	Expenditure.	Imports.	Exports.	
1844 -			£ 22,372	£ 18,302	£ 273,073	£ 281,850
1854 -		-	26,327	19,375	241,764	452,315
864 -		-	31,544	28,364	291,144	373,197
874 -		-	43,722	40,063	178,397	240,628
.884 -	-	-	51,866	53,585	237,588	317,449
894 -			38,213	45,056	162,390	262,302

To the revenue for the year 1894 should be added 2,7421., being the amount of revenue derived from local taxation, and placed to the credit of the various towns of the Colony, and to the expenditure for the same year 3,524l., being the amount expended on local services in the towns and districts. The net revenue for the year 1894 was, therefore, 40,955l., and the net expenditure 48,580l., whilst, therefore, the revenue for 1894 was less by 2,767l. than it was in 1874, the expenditure was greater by 8,5171. It must, however, be remembered that even so late as 1874 Belize was practically regarded as the Colony, and that the so-called county districts, that is, the districts exclusive of Belize, did not then receive the attention to which they were entitled, and which is now given. The system of local funds and local expenditure was only instituted in 1887, and the revenue previously derived from liquor licenses and other local taxes helped to swell the general revenue. The increased attention paid to the county districts during the last 20 years, with improved administrative machinery, has naturally caused an increase in expenditure, but, unfortunately, there has been no corresponding increase in revenue, having regard to the increase in population, which, in 1844, was given as 10,809, in 1854 as 18,000, in 1864 as 25,635, in 1874 as 24,710, in 1884 as 27,452, and in 1894 as The problem, therefore, with which the Government of this Colony is now confronted is an increasing population, with a natural demand for increased expenditure, and with a decreasing revenue to meet that demand.

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1894.

5

To solve the difficulty there would appear to be two alternatives. either to reduce expenditure in every direction, with the consequence of seriously impairing the efficiency of the administration of the Government, or to increase the revenue by increasing the taxation. Lightly taxed though the Colony now is, it is to be earnestly hoped that the second alternative will not be rendered necessary. At the present time, the logwood industry may be regarded as the only remunerative one in the Colony, the trade in mahogany having been, at all events for the present, practically abandoned, owing to the unremunerative rate at which the timber is now sold in England. The existence of the fruit trade, comprising bananas, plantains, and cocoanuts, in which a very large number of small agriculturalists is engaged, is seriously threatened in consequence of the low prices realised in the United States, and there are not yet any permanent crops sufficiently long established to take its place.

With regard to the value of the imports and exports of the Colony for 1894 a few words of explanation are necessary. In 1824, or 70 years ago, the value of the imports was given in the Blue Book as 262,988l., or over 100,000l. more than their net value in 1894, whilst the value of exports for the same year was 272,826l., or over 10,000l. more than in 1894. In no year since 1824 have imports fallen so low as in 1894, whilst at only one of the five periods given in the foregoing table, namely, in 1874, was the value of the exports lower than in 1894. The decrease in the value of the Colony's imports and exports should be attributed in great measure to the loss of the transit trade which Belize previously enjoyed, a trade which the connection of British Honduras with the railway system of Central America would possibly to some extent revive.

5. I have referred to the population of the Colony at five different periods, and, as the enclosed report is silent on the subject of vital statistics, it may be desirable for me to say a few words on this head. The area of the Colony is given as 7,562 square miles, that is a little more than the area of Wales, but the population at the end of 1894 was only 32,899. Thus the average population to the square mile is 4.35, the population per square mile or each of the six districts being as follows :-

Corosal -	-	-	-		7.48
Belize -	-		-	-	6.94
Toledo -	-		-	-	4.03
The Cayo	-	-	-	-	3.53
Orange Walk	-	-	-	000	3.48
Stann Creek	-	-	-	-	2.11

The total death-rate for the whole Colony in 1894 was 3571, which compares favourably with the death-rate of 43.66 in 1893, of 40.73 in 1892, and of 39.46 in 1891. Had it not been for the very heavy death-rate of 55.34 in the Corosal district and of 52.22 in the Toledo district, the average for the whole Colony in the year

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1894.

1894 would have been far lower. Dysentery and malarial fever were the chief factors in producing these heavy death-rates, whilst, when it is stated that no less than one-fifth of the children who are born die before attaining to one year of age, it will be readily understood why the death-rate of the Colony is so great as it is. Amongst Europeans the death-rate is small as compared with that in other tropical countries, but death is especially busy amongst those who are of Yucatican and Indian origin, whose principal food is corn in different forms, and who are of indifferent physique and stamina, and amongst those of the Carib population, who place confidence in so-called bush doctors and bushremedies, and have a supreme contempt for the treatment of qualified medical practitioners. In many respects, the climate of British Honduras, though exhausting, is not unhealthy, and Europeans can engage in out-door occupations without incurring serious risk, if properly protected from the sun, and if provided

with a few simple remedies against fever.

6. I wish to take this opportunity of briefly referring to the principal events of 1894, regarding which some misconception has At the beginning of the year there was a general feeling of expectancy and hopeful anticipation. The change in the currency, for which an almost unanimous appeal to the Home Government had been made, had been sanctioned, and arrangements were in train for carrying it into effect. It is true that the price of mahogany had fallen so much that it was being cut at a loss, and that there had been and still was a great shrinkage in general trade. But the price of logwood still kept up, and with the change in the currency it was hoped that a fresh impetus would be given to business of every kind. The change of currency was inaugurated on the 15th October, and, though no hitch occurred in the delicate transaction which it necessitated, there undoubtedly existed a feeling of disappointment in the minds of the poorer and more ignorant classes, when they found that the exchange value of each sol which they had in their possession was only 50 cents of the new currency, for the Guatemalan sol or dollar had at the time sunk to that value, and had, therefore, been assessed for exchange purposes at the Treasury at the abovementioned rate. The discontent which was caused by all the prices of all articles not being at once adjusted in accordance with the new currency, a want of appreciation of their position, and, it would seem, an intentional misunderstanding of the principle on which salaries had been temporarily adjusted, namely, at 72 cents of the new dollar for every sol received before, so as to raise the salaries to the equivalent of that paid in 1892, found expression in a mutiny on the part of some of the constabulary, and resulted in the discharge of 42 men of the force.

Later, again, ignorance as to the true value of the new currency, fear that wages would be reduced beyond what was fair and right, and a somewhat unconciliating attitude on the part of some employers of labour, terminated in a riot in Belize, on the 16th of December, which was only stopped by the landing of an

armed detachment from H.M.S. "Partridge," under the command of Lieutenant and Commander N. Macalister, then in harbour. Formidable, however, as it at one time appeared that the effects of the riot would be, no loss of life fortunately occurred, and comparatively little loss of property, the total damage done amounting only to about \$2,500, and that principally in one store. I have no desire to under-estimate the ill-effects resulting from the scenes of the 11th December and the next few following days, but I can see no grounds for anticipating that the events of last year will be repeated, whilst unquestionably, if there is any class that has benefited from the change in the currency, it is the labouring class. The price of domestic labour and of skilled labour is nearly the same in the present currency as it was in the old, whilst the prices of commodities have been considerably Again, the hired labourers engaged for the wood-cutting industry, who feared that their wages would be reduced to \$5 a month with rations, found that the lowest amount actually paid was \$8 with rations, whilst many received as much as \$10 a month, and the causes of discontent, partly imaginary, partly real, have been removed. The change in the currency has not, it is true, brought about that prosperity which many thought must be necessarily associated with it, but the commercial business of the Colony rests now on a more stable basis than it did before. For those who are willing to work, work at fair rates of pay can easily be found. The happiness and well-being of a Colony depend not on the prosperity of a few, but on the improved social condition of the many, and if the development of British Honduras is secured by the opening up of its country by railway enterprise, I can hopefully look forward to its winning in time a leading position in Greater Britain.

I have, &c.
E. B. SWEET-ESCOTT,
Administering the Government.

REPORT on the Blue Book of British Honduras for the Year 1894.

Taxes, Duties, &c.

The only change in the Customs Tariff was made in December as follows:—

Duty on tobacco was reduced from ten cents per pound to eight cents; and the duty on soap from 50 cents per 100 pounds to 25 cents.

The following goods were placed on the free list:—Beef, flour, pork; and furniture and household effects of bonâ fide immigrants.

The light dues on vessels were adjusted by fixing the maximum amount to be paid by any one ship at any one time at \$125.

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1894. British Honduras. 1894.

GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Up to the 15th October the revenue was collected in sols, the old currency, and from the 15th October in gold, the new currency; the amount collected in the old currency has been converted into the new at the prescribed rate, viz.:—50 cents of the new as equal to one dollar of the old. The total revenue for the year given in gold was \$185,711.72, of which amount \$100,057.69 was from Customs, and \$44,673.94 from internal taxation.

The expenditure (that up to the 15th October, converted as in

the case of the Revenue) was as follows:-

	\$	c.
Ordinary expenditure	194,009	29
Commissioners of Currency	127	42
Expenses and cost in connection with		
change of currency to a gold standard -	22,781	09
Military	69	96
Public works, extraordinary	1,988	62
Total exclusive of Belize Town and	070.070	
harbour improvements	218,976	38
Belize Town and harbour improvements -	11,307	03
Total expenditure	230,283	41
	THE RESERVE AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON NAMED IN	

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The general account of the Colony, excluding savings bank and public debt accounts, showed, on the 31st December 1894, assets amounting to \$8,284.57 in gold over liabilities; on savings bank account there was a balance of \$16,181.51 over liabilities. The public debt account showed liabilities to the amount of \$148,200.08, consisting of the loans of 1886, 1888, and 1893 respectively.

LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue and expenditure of the several towns of the Colony is given in the table below. The amounts are the equivalent in gold:—

_			Revenue.		Expend	iture.	Balanc Credit Beginni the Y	t at ng of	Balance Credit a of the	t End
angeren, is a		14.5	\$	c.	8		\$	c.	\$	c.
Belize -			10,869	80	11,467	02	2,038	02	1,440	80
Corosal -	_	7102	1,178	72			2,459	95	1,227	09
Orange Walk	-		877	31	2,168	98	1,628	03	336	36
Stann Creek			300	43	464		332	47	167	94
Mullins River			32	83		89	331	37	270	31
Punta Gorda			7	50	104		293	71	232	97
	-		11		109		477	44	378	77
Monkey River The Cayo	-	V162	The second secon	10	300		300		50	10

The smallness of the Revenue is to be accounted for by no receipts for liquor business in 1894, the licenses for 1895 not having been issued until January 1895, instead of in December previous, as was formerly the practice.

British Honduras, 1894.

LOCAL BOARDS.

The Local Boards of Belize consist of the Central Road Board, constituted under chapter 80 of the Consolidated Laws, of which the Governor is President, with extended powers over the whole Colony; a district road board, subject to the Central Road Board; the Local Board of Health, which is subject to the control of the Governor-in-Council, as Central Board of Health and the Quarantine Board, constituted under the recently passed and comprehensive Quarantine Ordinance, No. 26 of 1894. In addition, there are the following bodies all owing their existence to legislative enactments:—the Education Board, the Board of Governors of the British Honduras Institute, the Committee of Medical Registration, and the Commissioners of Currency.

In each of the districts there are a local board of Health, controlled by the Governor-in-Council, and a local road board under the Central Road Board, whose recommendations are subject to the approval of the Central Road Board. The Commissioners of respective districts are the presidents of these local boards. It has not proved practicable up to the present to bring into force Ordinance No. 29 of 1894, consisting of 146 sections, and consolidating and amending the law relating to the public health in British Honduras, and Ordinance No. 30 of 1894, which provides for the establishment of district boards; but so soon as these measures become operative the existing local boards will disappear, and be replaced by a district board which, presided over by the Commissioner of the district, will be entrusted with extensive powers as regards health and municipal matters. The same radical change will be effected in Belize, the Colonial Secretary, however, instead of the district Commissioner, being designated by law chairman of the board.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The amount expended on Public Works of all kinds in 1894, except the Belize Town and Harbour Improvements, was \$12,471.76, of which amount \$10,483.14 were spent on the maintenance of public buildings and roads, and in general services connected with their upkeep, and \$1,988.62 on Public Works Extraordinary.

The amounts expended on carrying out the works in connection with the improvement of the town and harbour of Belize amounted to \$11,307.03, bringing up the total expenditure on this service to the end of 1894 to \$156,203.40.

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1894.

LEGISLATION.

No less than 36 Ordinances, the same number as in 1892, were added to the Statute Book in 1894, many being measures of considerable scope and importance. Of these the following should be specially noticed:—

No. 6. Authorising the acquisition of lands for undertakings of

a public nature.

No. 8. Consolidating and amending the law relating to the

savings bank.

No. 9, which lays down the procedure to be followed in all criminal cases, and repeals chapter 24 of "the Consolidated Laws."

No. 11. To render more effectual the provisions for the protection of property from destruction or injury by fire.

No. 14. To regulate the Government medical service and medical establishments of the Colony.

No. 16. For establishing a British Honduras Institute.

No. 19. To provide for the licensing and registration of medical practitioners.

No. 23. For establishing an agricultural society.

No. 26. To amend and consolidate the law relating to quarantine.

No. 28. To provide for the construction and management of electric telegraphs.

No. 29. To consolidate the law relating to public health.

No. 30. To provide for the establishment of district boards.

No. 31. Respecting the coinage.

No. 32. To provide for the issue of Government paper currency.

COUNCILS.

The Executive Council is composed of the Colonial Secretary, the Treasurer, the Attorney-General, the Inspector-Commandant, and three unofficial members appointed by the Queen on the recommendation of the Governor; and the Legislative Council of the Colonial Secretary, the Treasurer, the Attorney-General, and five unofficial members also appointed by the Queen on the recommendation of the Governor. The Governor is President of both Councils.

During the year, with the approval of the Secretary of State, a standing financial committee, composed of all the official and unofficial members of the Legislative Council, with the Colonial Secretary in the chair, was constituted for the consideration and discussion of all matters submitted to it by the Government in connection with the annual appropriation and supplementary supply bills, and especially with any proposal for expenditure not ordinarily provided for. The constitution of this Committee has the advantage of enabling the Government to take the sense of the members of the Legislative Council on any matter involving expenditure of public money, although the Council itself is not in session.

PENSIONS.

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1894.

No addition was made to the pension list in 1894. One pensioner, Mr. J. H. Le Croix, formerly keeper of the Queen's warehouses, died.

EDUCATION.

At the close of 1894 there were 44 assisted schools, an increase of four on 1893, as follows:—

Belize district	- 200	A REAL		20
Corosal district	-	- 1	- 1	4
Orange Walk district	-		-	6
Stann Creek district .			-	8
Toledo district		- 1, 11 1	-	5
Cayo district -	L PRINT	-	-	1

The average enrolment was, boys, 1,771; girls, 1,452; total, 3,223, being 44 in excess of that of 1893; and the average daily attendance during the year was 2,252, showing 180 over 1893.

The total Government expenditure on account of education amounted to \$10,400.81 in gold.

CURRENCY.

The Guatemalan dollar continued to be the standard of currency until the 15th October, when Ordinance No. 31 of 1894, "respecting the coinage," was brought into operation by which the gold dollar of the United States of America was made the standard coin of British Honduras.

At the same time the gold coins of the United States specified below were by the Ordinance declared to be a legal tender for the amounts specified:—

					\$	C.
Quarter eagle	-	-	-		2	50
Three dollar pied	ce	-	-		3	00
Half-eagle	-	-	-		5	00
Eagle -	-		-	-	10	00
Double-eagle	-	AND THE REAL PROPERTY.	_	-	20	

The British sovereign was also declared a legal tender for \$4.86.

The half-sovereign for \$2.43.

The Ordinance further provided for the issue of subsidiary coins as follows:—

					C.
Fifty cent piece	-	-	-	- silver	50
Twenty-five cent	piece	-	-	- ,,	25
Ten cent piece	30	- "	00-4	- ,,	10
Five cent piece	-17	-	-	- ,	5
One cent piece	-	-	-	mixed metal	1

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1894. The gold coins specified above were declared a legal tender for the payment of any amount.

In the case of silver coins, for payment of any amount not exceeding ten dollars; and in the case of mixed metal or nickel for payment of an amount not exceeding fifty cents.

Simultaneously with the change of the standard of currency, Ordinance No. 32 of 1894, "to provide for the issue of Govern-

ment paper currency," was brought into force.

Under this Ordinance currency notes of the following denomination have been issued:—

One dollars.
Two dollars.
Five dollars.
Ten dollars.
Fifty dollars.
One hundred dollars.

A currency note is a legal tender in British Honduras of the

amount expressed therein.

The holder of a currency note is entitled to obtain on demand during office hours at the office of the Commissioners of Currency payment in current coin either gold or silver, at the option of the Commissioners, of the amount expressed in the note, but no person can be required to accept more than ten dollars in silver coins.

IMPORTS.

The following is a summary of the total value of the imports for 1894. The value is given in gold:

1. Live animals,	food, drink	, and	nar-	\$	c.
cotics -			-	336,277	00
2. Raw materials	other than	textile	and		
metal -	-		-	20,277	00
3. Manufactured	materials—				
(1.) Textile ·		-	_	152,674	00
(2.) Metal -		-	-	68,546	50
(3.) Other -	•		-	98,400	00
(4.) Coin, bullio	n, and specie	of all k	inds	118,039	50
				794,214	00

The imports from the United Kingdom amounted to \$317,876, from the United States to \$390,432.50, and the balance from various countries.

EXPORTS.

The total value of the exports amounted to \$1,274,791.50 in gold, of which the value exported to the United Kingdom was \$596,159.50 and to the United States, \$407,969.50.

The exports included 2,202,214 cocoanuts, 26,346 tons logwood, 5,559,763 feet of mahogany, 460,446 bunches of bananas, and 1,986,225 plantains.

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1894.

SHIPPING.

The shipping entered and cleared was as follows:-

Entered.

Sailing vessels 411, tons, 33,586; of these 208, of a tonnage 9,776 tons, entered with cargoes, and 203, of a tonnage 23,810 tons, in ballast.

173 steamers, of a tonnage of 111,756 tons, entered with cargoes, and 13 with a tonnage of 9,432 tons, in ballast.

Cleared.

266 sailing vessels, with a tonnage of 31,226 tons, cleared with cargoes, and 101, with a tonnage of 3,620 tons, in ballast.

178 steamers, of a tonnage of 112,890 tons, cleared with cargoes, and 8, of a tonnage 6,819 tons, in ballast.

32 more sailing vessels, with a tonnage of 2,651 tons, and 42 more steamers, with a tonnage of 13,247 tons, entered in 1894 than in 1893.

7 more sailing vessels, with a tonnage of 648 tons, and 40 more steamers, with a tonnage of 9,478 tons, cleared in 1894 than in 1893.

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The total number of prisoners committed to all the prisons in the Colony was 526; of these 369 were for penal imprisonment, being 26 fewer than in 1893. The daily average number in the Belize prison was 52.04. One death occurred in prison during the year.

SAVINGS BANK.

The number of the depositors on the 31st December 1894 was 366, being 7 less than at the end of December 1893.

The deposits in 1894 amounted to \$3,755.43, and the amount of withdrawals to \$11,266.98.

On the 31st December 1894 the amount to the credit of depositors was \$19,674.36, and \$34,313.26 of savings banks funds were invested in England, and \$1,542.61 were in the hands of the Treasurer.

The above amounts are gold, transactions previous to 15th October having been converted at the prescribed rate.

BRITISM HONDURAS. 1894.

CROWN LAND.

During the year 37 grants of Crown lands were made, 35 of which were for parcels of land under 100 acres, and 2 for parcels above 100 acres. The total quantity of land alienated was 1,4312 acres.

POSTAL.

The receipts of the Post Office for 1894, converted into gold, were \$4,372.23 and the expenditure, including subsidies, \$13,582.06.

The total number of letters and other articles sent to and received from abroad in 1893 and 1894 was as follows:—

			1893.	1894.
Letters ordinary -			79,985	86,932
Letters registered -	-	-	2,597	2,893
Post cards	0 4	-	1,810	2,425
Newspapers, books, &c.	-	-	61,078	61,125
Parcels by Parcel Post		-	579	597

Inland.

Letters	-	- 27	-	35,507	40,638
Newspapers,	&c.		-	7,088	8,532
Parcels	10			414	248

Money Orders, amounting to 695l. 13s. 3d., were issued during the year on the United Kingdom and other countries, and orders, amounting to 103l. 12s. 7d., were drawn on the Colony.

Since the introduction of the currency notes the issue of

Inland Postal Orders has become almost nil.

On the change of currency the rate of postage on letters to all places abroad was fixed at five cents per half ounce; and on inland letter at two cents.

Hospitals, &c.

The number of admissions into the Belize hospital in 1894 was 268,248 males and 20 females, and the daily average in hospital was 17.21 as compared with 18.24 in 1893. The number discharged as cured was 246 and 1 relieved. The number of deaths was 29.

The staff of the hospital was materially strengthened by the arrival from England of a trained nurse, Miss Beresford.

There were four admissions into the lunatic asylum, three males and one female. The daily average number of patients was 28.68. Two were discharged as cured and three died.

Ten persons, males, were admitted into the poor house; and the daily average was 12.95, as compared with 9.10 in 1893.

There were nine deaths.

The number admitted into the Corosal hospital was 138, of which two only were females. The daily average was 5.34; 99 patients were discharged as cured, and 32 relieved. There were 14 deaths.

At Orange Walk 156 patients were admitted and 158 discharged, 152 as cured and 6 as relieved. The daily average in hospital was 6.75. There were five deaths.

This hospital, which was opened in February 1893, and which had proved a great boon to the district, was unfortunately burnt

down in December 1894.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

According to observations taken at the Meteorological station, Belize, from May to December 1894, the shade temperature for those months was as follows:-

4	Mon	th.		Maximum.	Minimum.
				0	0
May	-	-	-	89	69
June	-	-		90	74
July	-			89	73
August	-	-	-	90	74
Septemb		-	-	94	70
October	-		-	93	67
Novemb	er		-	88	73
Decembe	er	-	-	88	46

The total rainfall for the like period was 63.65 inches; rain fell on 97 days. The greatest rainfall was in May, 16.34 inches, and in November, 14.41 inches.

October 4, 1895.

W. J. McKinney, Acting Colonial Secretary.

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1894.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 168.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894-5.

(For Report for 1893-4, see No. 131 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

June 1896.



LONDON:

PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE, BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,

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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

						1	
No.			Colony.				Year.
133	British Guiana	-	•	•			1893–94
134	Jamaica -	-					"
135	Newfoundland	-			-	-	1893
136	Gold Coast	-	-			-	,,
137	Zululand					74	1894
138	Bermuda	-				-	,,
139	Bahamas -	-				-	"
140	Barbados	-	-			-	"
141	Turks and Caico	s Islan	nds			-	"
142	Malta -	-	- 1	-	-	10	"
143	Gambia -	-				-	,,
144	Windward Island				-	-	"
145	Trinidad and Tol	oago				-	,,
146	Gibraltar -	-	•	-		-	"
147	Falkland Islands	-	-			-	"
148	Hong Kong	-		•		-	"
149	Straits Settlemen	nts	-	-		-	"
150	Lagos -	-	-	-	-	-	"
151	Seychelles	-	-			-	"
152	Basutoland	-	-	•		-	1894-95
153	Fiji -	-		-		-	1894
154	St. Helena	-		-	-	-	"
155	Ceylon -	-				-	"
156	Mauritius	-		-		-	"
157	Labuan -	-		-		-	"
158	Gold Coast	-	-			-	"
159	British Guiana	-		-	-	-	1894-95
160	Sierra Leone	-		-		-	1894
161	Jamaica -	-			-	-	1894-95
162	British Hondura					-	1894
163	British Bechuan	aland				-	1894-95
164	Newfoundland	-	-	-			1894
165	Gambia -		-			-	1895
166	Bermuda		- 10 10				
167	Leeward Islands	-	•		·	-	1894

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.			Subject.
1	Gold Coast -		4	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -		1	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone		-	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -		-	Emigration.
5	Bahamas -	2 10	15.0	Sisal Industry
6	Hong Kong	-		Sisal Industry. Bubonic Plague.

No. 168.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1894-5.

3

(For Report for 1893-4, see No. 131.)

Lieut.-Governor Sir A. H. PALMER to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Brisbane,

SIR. February 21, 1896. I HAVE the honour to enclose, in separate cover six printed copies of the Annual Report of the British New Guinea Administration for the year ended on the 30th June 1895. I also forward, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Chief Secretary

of Queensland, in which he acknowledges the services rendered by his Honour Mr. Winter, who administered the Government of the Possession during the absence of Sir William Macgregor. The appendices give Reports of the various visits of Mr.

Winter to different parts of the Possession, and, besides, contain

much useful information.

I have, &c. A. H. PALMER, Lieut.-Governor.

Chief Secretary's Office, Brisbane, February 19, 1896.

SIR, I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt from your Excellency of Sir William Macgregor's Despatch, of the 5th December last, transmitting the Annual Report on the affairs of the Possession for the year ended 30th June 1895, prepared by his Honour F. P. Winter, C.M.G., who acted as Administrator during the period under review.

I have caused the Report to be printed, and now forward the usual number of copies for transmission to the Secretary of State

for the Colonies.

I desire to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the manner in which Mr. Winter administered the Government of the Possession during the absence of the Lieutenant-Governor.

I have, &c. His Excellency HUGH M. NELSON. The Hon. Sir Arthur Palmer, K.C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor.

o 91940. Wt. 20348.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1894-5. Annual Report on British New Guinea from 1st July 1894 to 30th June 1895, with Appendices.

INDEX.

Sec- tion.	Subject.	Page.
	Preliminary.	
	Annual Report made under Royal Instructions	6
	Legislation.	23000
1 2	Ordinance No. II. of 1894 provides for protection of Wild Birds - Ordinance No. III. of 1894 appropriates 15,000l. for Ordinary Administration purposes, 7,000l. for ss. "Merrie England," &c.	6 7
3	Ordinance No. IV. of 1894 modifies Provisions of "The Pearl-shell and Bêche-de-Mer Ordinance of 1891."	7
4 5	Native Regulation dealing with Extortion - Regulations passed under "The Gold Fields Act, 1874" (Queensland Adopted).	7 8
	Administration of Justice.	
6	Particulars of Matters dealt with Judicially; Remarks thereon -	8
	Administrative Visits of Inspection.	
7	Visit of Inspection to Eastern and North-Eastern portions of the Possession.	17
8	Visit of Inspection from Port Moresby Westwards -	18
9	Visit to Daru, Saguane, and Yule Island	19
10	Visit to the Mekeo District	19
11	Tour of Inspection to Eastern End of Possession Second Visit of Inspection to North-East Coast	19 20
12 13	Visit to Central District of Possession	22
	Reports by Officers.	
14 15	Report of Resident Magistrate for Western Division - Reason why no Reports furnished by Resident Magistrate for Central Division, or by Government Agents for Rigo and Mekeo Districts.	23 23
16	Report of Resident Magistrate for Eastern Division	23
17	Report of late Resident Magistrate for the Louisiade Division -	24
18	Report of Commandant of Armed Constabulary	25
	Prisons.	
19	Health of Prisoners; Effect of Imprisonment on Natives; Appointment of prisoners as Warders.	25
	Establishments.	
20	Loss sustained by death of Mr. F. E. Lawes; Changes among officers during Year.	26
	Public Property and Public Works.	
21	Vessels and Boats; Work carried out during Year	27

Sec-			Sul	oject.					Page.	BRITISH NEW GUINEA 1894-5.
		ur your	Tr	ade.						
22	Imports -	of Aware				and the			28	
23	Exports -		L. D.				1. Vilor		29	
24	Shipping -				-	- 1	30-13		30	
25	Postal -				i	- 00	-		30	
			Fin	ance.						
26	Revenue -					1.70		-	31	
27	Expenditure		-	400	-	-			31	
28	SS. "Merrie E	ngland"		- Jer	-			-	31	
			Meteo	rology.						
29	Returns from tures at Port								32	
			Gold	Mining.						
30	Progress made undertaken.	by Indust			Prosp	ecting	Expedi	tions	33	
			Native	Customs.	A PARTY OF					
31	Account of N	Tative Cu	stoms in	n Bartle	Bay	Distric	et, by	Rev.	33	
32 33	Copland Kin Report by Mr. Account of Wa Loria.	C. E. Ken	nedy, or	Land T	enur e Logea,	of Taun by Dr	pota Dis . Lamb	trict erto	34 34	
34	Notes on Toter	nism, &c.,	by Mr.	В. А. Не	ely	-	4.0	-	34	
	o the part		Mission	work.						
25	Progress made	by Londo			aioty				0.4	
35 36	Work of Sacre	Heart M	lission	nary so	-	100		0/12	34 35	
37	Remarks on A			-					35	
38	Energy manifes			Mission	-	-		-	36	
			Gen	eral.						
39	Anxiety caused	hy annear	rance of	Small-no	v in G	arman '	Now C.	inco	96	
40	Attacks made	ov unknow	n Hill	Cribes on	Coast	Tribes	-	ппеа	36 37	
41	Development o					-			37	
42	Occupation of				-	-	1	-	38	
			* Appe	ndices.						
Q	Notes on Nativ		Tenure :	and other		oms o	f the B	artle	39	
R	Bay District, Notes on Nativ	re Land T	enure ar	d other	Custom			es of	42	
S	Taupota and Notes on the	neighbou	rhood, b	y Mr. C.	E. Ke	nnedy.	1			
	neighbourho	od, by Dr.	. Lambe	rto Loria					44	
T	Notes on Toter	nism, &c.,	among	the West	tern Ti	ribes, b	y Mr. I	3. A.	54	

^{*} Appendices A. to P. not printed.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1894-95. Government House, Sir. British New Guinea, December

British New Guinea, December 5, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the usual Annual

Report for the year ending 30th June 1895.

In the early part of the year under review I was absent in Queensland on official duty. In the beginning of September I left for Europe, on leave of absence, and returned to the Possession at the end of last May.

During my absence, his Honour F. P. Winter, C.M.G., acted

as Administrator.

Mr. Winter, with loyalty and ability, carried on the work of administration on the lines already well established; and, as he is better acquainted than I can be with the details of all that transpired during my absence, he has at my request prepared this Report for the year, in doing which he has followed the arrangement of previous ones.

I have, &c.,

His Excellency WM. MACGREGOR.

Sir Arthur Hunter Palmer, K.C.M.G.,

&c. &c. &c.

Lieutenant-Governor, Queensland.

REPORT.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to present a report of the proceedings of the Government of British New Guinea for the year ending with June 1895, as directed by Section XXXVI. of the Royal Instructions.

LEGISLATION.

Ordinances.

1. Ordinance No. II. of 1894, being an Ordinance for the protection of wild birds. The objects of this measure are to prevent the destruction of wild birds of any description in certain localities, and generally the destruction of rare or valuable species of birds.

The Administrator is empowered to prohibit, by proclamation, the destruction within a prescribed locality of all wild birds except such birds as may by the proclamation itself be excluded from its operation, or of the wild birds that are described in the proclamation itself.

Any breach of the provisions of a proclamation renders the offender liable to a penalty of 10l.

Provision is made for granting a restricted permission to destroy protected birds where such birds have become noxious.

During the year three proclamations were issued under this Ordinance The first of these prohibits the destruction of all

wild birds, except birds of prey, in the vicinity of Port Moresby, in the island of Samarai, and on the island of Daru; the second New Guinea. forbids the destruction of the rare Bird of Paradise, only known to exist in the D'Entrecasteaux Archipelago, and generally called the Fergusson Island (Raggiana); and the third protects from destruction in the D'Entrecasteaux and Trobriand archipelagos all birds of the larger kind of the Manucodia species of the Birds of Paradise, called by the natives "Buli Buli."

2. Ordinance No. III. of 1894, being the Appropriation Ordinance for 1894-5. This measure was passed to appropriate for the services of the financial year the following sums :- For ordinary administration purposes, the sum of 15,000l.; for the purposes of exploration, 400l.; for the purchase of a vessel, the sum of 3501; for the maintenance of the steamship "Merrie England," the sum of 7,000l., and the sum of 544l., being an unexpected balance brought forward from the previous year.

3. Ordinance No. IV. of 1894, being an Ordinance to amend "The Pearlshell and Bêche-de-mer Fishery Ordinance of 1891." This Ordinance brought the law of the Possession that governs the fishery in accord with the law of Queensland, which had been altered in several respects since the Ordinance of 1891 was passed. The following are the principal alterations made by the amending Ordinance: Power is given to appoint inspectors of the fishery; ample authority is bestowed upon such inspectors to examine into all matters connected with the fishery, and to enforce observance of the law.

Stringent provisions are made to ensure all diving-gear being maintained in a state of efficiency.

A minimum size of pearlshell is fixed. Fishing for shell that is less than this size is prohibited under penalty.

Ports of export for pearlshell are constituted, and the export of shell from any place other than such a port of export is forbidden.

The Administrator in Council is empowered to prohibit the removal of pearlshell or other marine products from any specified locality.

No ship employed in the fishery is to have on board more than

two gallons of intoxicating liquor.

Power is given to the Administrator in Council to grant leases of the whole or of any part of an outlying reef or bank, or of any shore reef, or of the foreshore of an island, or of any Crown lands lying below high-water mark in any lagoon, river, inlet, estuary, or creek, or of any lands lying beneath tidal waters, within the limits of the jurisdiction of British New Guinea, for the collection, storage, cultivation, or propagation of pearlshell, oysters, and other products of the sea.

Native Regulations

4. The only regulation of the Native Regulation Board passed during the year is one dealing with extortion. The object of this measure is to prevent Natives who have acquired a knowledge of BRITISH 1894-5.

BRITISH
NEW GUINEA.
1894-5.

the Government and its ways from abusing this knowledge for their own benefit.

The first penal clause of the regulation imposes a penalty of not more than 14 days' imprisonment upon any native that pretends that he is possessed of authority from the Government when he knows that he is not. The second penal clause makes it penal for any native to use any real or pretended authority for the purpose of gaining a benefit for himself or his friends. Any native committing a breach of this clause may be ordered to restore any property that he has extorted, and if he does not obey the order, may be imprisoned for a period not exceeding 14 days; and, in addition to this, he may, as a punishment for the extortion, be imprisoned for a period not exceeding two months.

Goldfields Regulations.

5. A set of regulations under "The Gold Fields Act, 1874" (Queensland adopted), was passed. These regulations divide themselves into two parts, the first of which relates to increased reward claims, and is only applicable to the main island of New Guinea; whilst the second, which makes certain alterations in the

general law, is applicable to the whole Possession.

The rewards given under these regulations are for the discovery of gold at a spot distant more than 20 miles in a straight line from the nearest place at which gold is being mined for. The extent of the rewards is as follows:—If the spot be distant more than 20 but less that 40 miles—for alluvial, 20 chains of one man's ground; for quartz, 1,000 feet along the line of reef. And if the spot be distant 40 miles or more—for alluvial, 30 chains of one man's ground; for quartz, 1,250 feet along the line of reef. These reward claims are in addition to any reward claims already allowed by law.

The remainder of the regulations are to meet the difficulties which in a new country like New Guinea stand in the way of a strict compliance with the laws relating to the registration and the working of claims. The difficulty of communication, sickness, the failure of provisions or mining requisites, or the absence of the warden may render it impossible for a person to comply with the law. The laws are therefore relaxed to the extent that, if non-compliance by a person with the law is really not the fault of such person, such non-compliance may be deemed excusable.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

6. The establishment for the administration of justice is the same as that of last year.

His Honour F. P. Winter, C.M.G., Chief Judicial Officer, has furnished the following tabulated list of cases dealt with by the Courts during the year:—

MATTERS DEALT WITH JUDICIALLY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE 1895.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1894-5.

9

CENTRAL COURT.

Criminal Jurisdiction.

Number of Persons committed for Trial.	District from which committed.	Persons committed—how disposed of.
38	Central District	27 tried. 8 committal quashed. 3 awaiting trial.
35	Eastern District	24 tried. 5 committal quashed. 6 awaiting trial.
Total 93	Western District	20 tried.

The Court held 26 Criminal Sessions at the places and times and with the results, undermentioned :-

No. of Persons tried.	Offence charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.			
	Por	RT MORESBY—21st July, 189	94.			
1	Murder, (2) wounding,	guilty of wounding with intent to murder -	5 years' penal servitude.			
	PORT MORESBY—9th October, 1894.					
6	5 murder, (2) attempt to 5 murder, 1 murder.	guilty of attempt to murder, 1 acquitted.	5 six months' imprison ment with hard labour			
	SA	MARAI-20th October, 1894.				
2	Murder g	guilty of murder	death.			
	Supes	ST ISLAND—30th October, 1	804			
1		equitted.	3076			
	JOANNET ISLAND—30th October, 1894.					
2	Murder (2) assault g	cuilty of assault	12 months' imprisonmen with hard labour.			
	Вс	OGOYA—1st November, 1894				
1	Unlawfully wounding - g	uilty of unlawfully wounding.	fined 51.			
	S	SEGARA—1st November, 189	4.			
1	Murder g	guilty of murder	death.			
	N	IVANI-5th November, 1894				
1	Murder a	cquitted on ground of insanity.				
	SA	MARAI, 7th November, 1894				
5	2 murder, 3 extorting goods with menaces.	guilty of murder, 3 guilty of extorting goods with menaces.	2 death, 3 two months imprisonment with hard labour.			
	Do	OBU-20th November, 1894.				
1			three month's imprison ment with hard labour.			

BRITISH, NEW GUINEA. 1894-5.	No. of Persons tried.	Offence charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.		
	Wamira-21st November, 1894.					
	6		guilty of assaulting con- stables whilst discharg- ing their duty.			
		D	EDERE—27th November, 1894			
	8		3 guilty of murder, 5 acquitted.			
	DOMARA—29th November, 1894.					
	1	Murder	acquitted.			
		I	PARAMAN—1st December 189	4.		
	2	Wounding	acquitted.			
		PORT MO	RESBY—7th and 8th December	er, 1894.		
	2	Murder	guilty of murder	death.		
			DARU-2nd January, 1895.			
	3	2 murder, 1 abusing girl under ten years of age.	1 guilty of murder, 1 guilty of mauslaughter, 1 discharged.	1 death, 1 twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour.		
		SAGUANE—8th and 9th January, 1895.				
	16	11 murder, 1 rape, 1 unlawfully wounding, 3 contempt of court.	1 guilty of manslaughter,10 acquitted of murder, 1 guilty of rape, 1 guilty of unlawfully wounding, 3 guilty of contempt of court.	1 death, 2 six months' imprisonment with hard labour, 3 six months' imprisonment.		
	PORT MORESBY—24th January, 1895.					
	1	Murder	guilty	death.		
			Vivani11th February, 1895.			
	1	Assault with intent, &c.				
			SAMARAI-12th February, 189			
	1		guilty of manslaughter -			
		S	AMARAI-26th February, 1895.			
	3	Desecration of sepulture	guilty t	wo months' imprison- ment with hard labour.		
		Po	ORT MORESBY—6th April, 189	5.		
	5	Murder	guilty (leath.		
		Po	RT MORESBY—11th April, 1898	5.		
	2			death.		
	Guniakuru—9th May, 1895.					
	1			two years' imprisonment with hard labour.		

No. of Persons tried.	Offence Charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.	BRITISH NEW GUINEA 1894-95.
1		RT MORESBY—16th May, 189 guilty	5. one months' imprisonment with hard labour.	
		DARU-23rd May, 1895.		
Total 83	7 murder, 2 wounding with intent, &c.	7 guilty of manslaughter, 1 guilty of wounding, 1 not guilty.		

Civil Business.

Number of Proceedings.		Nature of Proceedings.
	10	Applications for administration by Curator of Intestate Estates.
	2	Applications by Curator of Intestate Estates for directions.
	5	Applications under section 34 of Intestacy Act.
	1	Application under section 24 of Intestacy Act.
	_	
Tota1	18	

COURT OF PETTY SESSIONS. Indictable Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Inquiry.
Central District -	54	43 murder 7 attempt to murder- 1 assault 1 breaking gaol - 2 assisting prisoner to escape	38 committed. 8 discharged. 8 on remand.
Eastern District	45	22 murder - 9 assault - 5 extortion - 2 breaking gaol - 6 desecration of sepulture - 1 larceny -	35 committed. 4 discharged. 6 on remand.
Western District -	20 — Total 119	13 murder 1 rape 3 wounding 3 contempt of court -	20 committed.

Summary Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.		Result of Trial.			
Central District	62	10 larceny 14 assault	5 convicted, 5 dis- charged. 13 convicted, 1 dis-			
		21 breach of Labour Ordinance	charged. 6 convicted, 15 dis-			
		7 breach of Constabulary Ordinance.	charged. 5 convicted, 2 discharged.			
		2 harbouring escaped prisoner	2 convicted.			
The state of		7 breach of Prisons Ordinance	7 convicted.			
		1 injuries to property -	1 convicted.			
Eastern District -	62	26 larceny	23 convicted, 3 discharged.			
		16 assault	16 convicted.			
		1 breach of Pearl Shell Ordinance.	1 convicted.			
		14 harbouring escaped prisoners	12 convicted, 2 discharged.			
		1 abusive language	1 discharged.			
		2 breach of Prisons Ordinance	2 convicted.			
		2 drunk and disorderly -	2 convicted.			
Western District -	4	3 assault	3 convicted.			
		1 breach of Pearl Shell Ordinance.	1 convicted.			
	Total 128					

Civil Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Actions Tried.	Nature of Action.	Result of Action.
Central District -	6	2 debt	Verdict for plaintiff.
		4 work done	3 verdict for plaintiff, 1 for defendant.
Eastern District -	- 3	1 debt	Verdict for plaintiff.
		1 wages	Verdict for plaintiff.
		1 damage to boat -	Settled out of court.
Western District -	2	2 debt	1 for plaintiff, 1 for defendant.
	Total 11		

COLONIAL REPORTS. -- ANNUAL.

NATIVE MAGISTRATES' COURTS.

Criminal Jurisdiction (Forbidden Acts).

BRITISH
NEW GUINEA.
1894-5.

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
No. 2 (Central) -	32	9 larceny	6 convicted, 3 discharged.
	T. T. WILL	4 assault	2 convicted, 2 discharged.
		6 using threatening language	3 convicted, 3 discharged.
		1 adultery	1 discharged.
		6 spreading lying reports -	6 convicted.
		2 sorcery	1 convicted, 1 discharged.
		2 extortion	2 discharged.
		2 breach of roads regulation-	2 convicted.
No. 3 (Eastern) -	45	13 larceny	11 convicted, 2 discharged.
		6 assault	2 convicted, 4 discharged
		5 sorcery	4 convicted, 1 discharged.
		18 adultery	5 convicted, 3 discharged.
A TOTAL STREET		2 threatening language -	2 convicted.
		1 spreading lying reports -	1 convicted.
No. 1 (Western) -	3	1 assault	1 convicted.
		2 adultery	2 convicted.
Total -	80		

Civil Jurisdiction (Civil Claims).

District of Court.	Number of Actions Tried.	Nature of Claim.	Result of Trial.
No. 2 (Central)	- 3	1 right to erect a fence 2 injuries to property	Verdict for complainant.
No. 3 (Eastern)	- 3	1 claim to land - 1 claim to box - 1 non-delivery of pigs	Verdict for defendant. Verdict for complainant. Verdict for complainant.
No. 1 (Western) Total	- 6	None.	

TOTAL NUMBER OF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.

In Central Court -	-			- 1		93
In Courts of Petty Sessions (e	exclu	sive of	the 93	cases	that	
went up to Central Court)	-			-	-	154
In Native Magistrates' Courts	3 -				-	80
7 110						-
In all Courts -				-		327
m 37	~					
TOTAL NUMBER OF	CIV	IL PRO	CEEDI	NGS.		
In Central Court	-					18
In Courts of Petty Sessions	-					11
In Native Magistrates' Courts	3 -				-	6
						_
In all Courts -	-					35

British New Guinea. 1894-5.

Of the total 327 cases that were brought before the Courts in their criminal jurisdiction, 20 resulted in a sentence of capital punishment. These 20 cases were all homicides by natives upon natives. In no instance was the death sentence carried out, the sentences being commuted in each case to penal servitude.

A native of Dufaure Island killed his wife shortly after he had discovered that she had been guilty of adultery. The killing by a man of his wife under such circumstances would by natives be regarded as justifiable.

A native of Taupoto killed another native of the same place. There was no apparent motive for this crime. The offender himself admitted that he had no cause of hostility against his victim, but that an overpowering impulse to kill him seized him, and he went and killed him. From all accounts the culprit had always been a very quiet, well-behaved person. The Court did not consider insanity sufficiently established to justify an acquittal on that ground. It was evident, however, that when the accused committed the offence he was not right in his mind, and this appeared to be a sufficient reason for commuting the sentence.

A native of Gulewa, in the island of St. Aignan, was sentenced to death for killing a man of the village of Heriba, on the same island. This murder was the latest homicide in a long-standing feud between these tribes.

A native of Maiwara, in Milne Bay, came in from working at his garden, and, being hungry, asked his wife for some food. His wife refused his request. Upon this he lost his temper. He still had in his hand the tomahawk with which he had been working. He made a blow with this at his wife, and the blow was fatal. The unpremeditated nature of the crime was allowed to weigh in favour of the prisoner.

A man of Bakera, in Normanby Island, ran away with the wife of another man, and when the latter came to seek the pair he threw a spear at the husband, which killed him. As an instance of strong affection on the part of a New Guinea native, and as a proof that a barbarian may, on the subject of unions between the sexes, possess ideas which have had their weight with highlycultivated minds, the case is somewhat remarkable. When the culprit was blamed by his own people, he said that it was true the woman was by custom the wife of deceased, but that, as he loved her more than deceased had done, and she loved him more than she had deceased, she was really his wife. To do the offender justice, he did not deem his proceedings creditable. He said that it was the feeling of anguish at the idea of losing the woman that made him throw the spear. After the evidence had been given before the magistrate, he observed: "It is quite true, and I am ashamed to have to admit that it is." He received his sentence with serene composure, and then remarked in a reflective manner, "Well, I did behave like a fool, but I really could not help it." His sentence was commuted to ten years' penal servitude.

Three men of the Dedere district were convicted, one as an instigator of, and the two others as participators in, the Magaobu New Guinea. massacre. In commuting these sentences the number of persons concerned in the massacre and the punishment which the tribes implicated in the murder had received, from the long and strenuous pursuit they had been subjected to, was taken into con-

BRITISH 1894-5.

A young man of the Kabadi district several years ago killed a lad for stealing food. The lad appears to have been an habitual thief. According to native custom the homicide would be justifiable. At the date that the lad was killed the natives of Kabadi had

not learnt much about the ways of the Government.

An old man of a village on the Astrolabe Range struck a young girl on the head with a stone club because she would not give him some pig's fat. The blow was fatal. The conduct of the old man at the trial, and generally, gave the impression that he was rather weak in his mind. Even had he belonged to a place well under Government influence, he was probably too hardened in his old customs and ideas to understand the new order of things. sentence was commuted to a long term of penal servitude.

A youth of the village of Aripara, in the west, was charged with the murder of the husband of a woman with whom he had an intrigue. The lad seemed to have been quite under the influence of the woman, who instigated him to kill her husband in order that she and he might get married. These facts were taken

into consideration in commuting the sentence

A young man of a village on Kiwai Island was convicted of the rape of a girl. The rape had been conducted in rather an open manner. The youth had tried to get the girl to marry him, which she had refused to do. He seems to have come to the conclusion that by acting as he did he would compel the girl to marry him. This a few years ago would probably have been the sequel to the affair. The village constable, however, heard of what had happened, and the youth was at once arrested and sent to Daru.

A man from a hill village at the back of Milport Harbour killed a woman who, deservedly or undeservedly, had gained the reputation of being a witch. The accused and another man deemed it their duty to rid the country of what to them was a wicked The locality where the homicide took place has not as yet been brought under much control.

Five men of an Alepa village were convicted of taking part in an attack on Kalirupu, in which attack about 10 of the inhabitants of the latter village were killed. There had been a feud of some standing between the two villages. The arrest and imprisonment

of these men will probably put an end to hostilities.

Two more of the Korohi tribe were convicted of taking part in the massacre of the Kagi people, perpetrated in July, 1894, by a band made up from many hill villages. There was nothing specially heinous in the offence of these men and, as the sentence imposed upon another of the band had been commuted, the same course was followed in the present instance.

1894-5.

The 26 sittings of the Central Court in its Criminal jurisdiction NEW GUINEA. were held as below:-

In the Western Division	-	-	114	41-	3
In the Central Division	-	1772	W-04	-	11
In the Eastern Division	-	-	-10		6
In the South-eastern Division	n	-			6

Nine cases were awaiting trial by the Central Court at the end

of the year.

Of the 119 indictable offences brought before the Central Court 78 were for murder. The rest of the cases were mostly in the nature of more or less serious assaults. Under this category come cases of manslaughter and wounding. These frequently are simply the result of a sudden fit of anger, and the blow struck under the impulse of passion is often regretted immediately afterwards. Natives at times, partly, perhaps, owing to their own ignorance or carelessness, die from wounds which, had they been inflicted on a healthy European, would probably not have produced any serious The natives of the Western Division are rather apt to use their hands when they lose their tempers. These considerations doubtless weigh with the Court in imposing sentences which, if the offence had been committed in a civilised country, might perhaps be deemed light sentences. As regards the desecration of sepulture cases, they were all from one district near Milne Bay, and were the outcome of some superstitious ideas prevalent amongst the people of this district.

Of the summary cases brought before the Courts of Petty Sessions, a large number are for larceny. These thefts are mostly small thefts from Europeans by natives, which cannot be dealt with in the Native Magistrates' Courts. Some of the thefts were of money. It is usually youths who have been with Europeans that steal money. The breaches of the Labour Ordinance were cases of natives running away from service. Natives that are serving at places distant from their homes are at times seized with a strong

fit of home-sickness and go home without leave.

The cases tried in the Native Magistrates' Courts are not so numerous as those tried in the preceding year. In the Central District this is probably due to the absence on leave of the agents at Rigo and Mekeo for more than half the year. Petty thefts and slight assaults were the most common offences. The Adultery

Regulation was more availed of in the Eastern District.

The civil cases brought before the Native Magistrates' Courts by no means represent all the disputes that are settled by magis-Many differences are decided in a friendly way by reference to a magistrate. A dispute amongst the Aroma tribes about a valuable block of land, several square miles in extent, was during the year decided, with the approval of the natives, without any legal formalities, by the Chief Judicial Officer. The case was one that it would have been externely difficult to bring before a court in such a form that a court could have given a judgment. disputants agreed to take the opinion of the Chief Judicial Officer as to whom the land belonged to, and they have abided by it.

The total number of cases brought before the Courts has been

1894-95.	1893–94.	1892–93.	1891–92.	1890–91.	1889–90
362	317	138	142	81	71

As has been pointed out before, the increase in the number of cases that come before the courts does not represent an increase in crime. It is simply the result of the increased influence of the Government, the increasing efficiency of village constables, and the greater willingness of the natives to let the law avenge injuries. In those districts that are now getting well under Government control, crime is decreasing. Of the 20 men convicted of murder only one came from a seaside village, on the long line of coast between Maipua and Samarai. From the thickly-populated Mekeo district not one serious offence was reported. From the district lying between the Astrolabe Range and the Kemp Welch River, and which may be said to constitute the Rigo district proper, no serious crime was reported. For the first two years after the establishment of the Possession this was the worst district in the coastal portions of the Possession for homicides and feuds.

ADMINISTRATIVE VISITS OF INSPECTION.

7. On the 17th of October 1894 a visit to the east was begun. As a large number of prisoners were being taken to Samarai to work at the swamp, Dedere was the only place touched at on the coast between Port Moresby and Samarai.

From Samarai the steamer proceeded as far south as Rossel Island, calling at Nivani and Sudest. At the latter place the gold reef was inspected. The constabulary at Rossel Island for 48 hours rigorously pursued a hill tribe that had been guilty of an attack on a coast tribe, and succeeded in capturing one culprit.

From Rossel the return to Samarai was made viâ Sudest, Joannet Island, Bogoya, Segara, the Lachlans, part of the north coast of Misima, and Nivani. At most of these places sittings of the Central Court were held. At the Lachlans all the villages were visited and some steps taken to prevent burials in villages.

From Samarai the next place visited was Dobu. Here news was received of the death of James Hurley, the leader of a party seeking for gold in the ranges at the back of Bartle Bay at the hands of some natives. The steamer, therefore, at once went across to Bartle Bay, calling at Taupota to obtain carriers. The Commandant with a party of constabulary and carriers was left at Wamira with instructions to proceed to the scene of Hurley's death, whilst the steamer went on to the Trobriands. Several days were spent in the Trobriands visiting different districts. A return was then made to Bartle Bay, where the Commandant and his party were picked up. He had captured six men belonging to the tribe that had killed Hurley, but there was no proof that any of

the six had taken part in the murder. Finally they were sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment each for resisting the constabulary, whom they had tried to resist with weapons. The murder was committed by wild hill tribes who had never had any intercourse with Europeans before the mining party came amongst them.

From Bartle Bay the steamer proceeded to Taupota, where certain differences between the representative of the Anglican Mission at that place and the natives were terminated. After leaving Taupota several villages in Goodenough Bay were visited,

and from thence a course was made to Dobu.

On the 24th November a visit was paid to some hill villages at the back of Sikiruku, in Fergusson Island. These hillmen had been bouncing the people of Sikiruku, and expressing contempt for the Government. On the appearance of the Government party they ran away. However, the visit was effectual, as they made friends with the coast people and expressed their intention

of behaving properly in the future.

After touching at Samarai the steamer proceeded to Dedere and Domara. The state of the tribes inland from here justified the withdrawal of the detachment of constabulary that had been for the past six months engaged in the pursuit of the perpetrators of the Magaobu massacre and in restoring order. At Domara the constabulary surrounded the village of Merani in the night-time, and captured seven men of Ipsomari. The Ipsomari people were suspected of having brought from the highlands a band of mountaineers that a few months previously had attacked Domara. This band, which eventually was driven back, is supposed to have lost a number of its members by drowning in an estuary. At Dedere and at Domara sittings of the Central Court were held.

After leaving Domara the next place stopped at was Aroma. The different villages were inspected. A dispute between the different villages as to the ownership of a large tract of land was decided. Some criminal cases were disposed of. The disposition of the people was very friendly, and the village constables were particularly attentive, and anxious to make themselves useful.

From Aroma the vessel went to Kapa Kapa, calling off Bula. At the latter place the Chief Gima appeared to be keeping his district in order. A visit was paid to the Rigo station from Kapa Kapa, and also one to the newly-established college of the London Missionary Society. The steamer then returned to port.

8. On the 21st December a departure was made from Port Moresby westward. The first place stopped at was Yule Island, where a visit was paid to the authorities of the Mission of the Sacred

Heart.

From Yule Island the steamer went on to Toaripi, landing mails on the way at Yokea, for the London Mission Station. At Toaripi an inquiry was held into a charge of murder, but the facts did not support the charge. Some alleged acts of extortion by the Chief were also inquired into, but there was no evidence to support them.

Karama was next visited. Here the Chief of Womai was summoned to attend and answer charges of resisting the Chief and

village constables of Toaripi in an attempt to arrest a culprit. The investigation turned out unfavourably to the Toaripi officials, who were ordered to confine their work to their own district for the future. The people of Karama were at first much alarmed at the Government visit. However, as the day after the steamer arrived there was Christmas Day, a number of athletic contests for small prizes were got up, in which the constabulary and the natives took part, and the natives recovered confidence.

A landing was next made at Kerema, where a case of alleged murder was inquired into and dismissed and a land purchase

made.

Orokolo was then visited. One of the villages had been rather troublesome, and, according to the other villages, was always expressing a desire to fight the Government. As all the constabulary were on shore, they advanced in order on the village. which was at once vacated.

After leaving Orokolo the villages of Apiopi and Maipua were visited, and then the steamer went to Daru, where the Acting Administrator remained whilst the steamer went to Thursday Island.

9. At Daru various criminal cases were dealt with; and then, on the return of the steamer, Saguane was visited. A rather heavy criminal calendar was disposed of. A remarkable case was a charge of murder against ten men of Wiorubi, who, it was alleged, had murdered the shipwrecked crew of an Augaramuba canoe. The witnesses before the lower court denied the evidence they had given. Finally, the case depended upon the evidence of one man. The accused, who had always declared themselves to be innocent, were acquitted.

After the sittings of the Central Court had finished at Saguane, the steamer proceeded to Yule Island, where she left the Acting Administrator, off the mouth of the Angabunga River, and started

for Cooktown, viâ Port Moresby.

10. From the 11th to the 21st January a visit of inspection was made in the Mekeo district. The villages of Yeku, Inawaia, and Oriropetana, on the eastern side of the river, were inspected, as were also the villages of Veipa, Aipiana, and Inawi, on the western side. Owing to incessant rains, much of the country was under water. The natives had suffered a good deal from sickness. They had also lost a number of pigs from some disease. The wet and the attacks of a species of beetle had injured the taro crop.

The state of the district was very quiet. A few alleged cases

of sorcery and theft were the only complaints,

The Mission of the Sacred Heart were found to be extending their operations. Their staff of teachers was on the increase, and new stations were being formed.

After returning to Hall Sound the villages of Pinupaka and Mou were visited, and the party then proceeded to port in the

ketch "Lokohu,"

11. At the beginning of February, 1895, a tour of inspection eastward was begun. After calling at Samarai the steamer went

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1894-5. 1894-5.

to the Wesleyan Mission Station at Tube Tube (Slade) Island. NEW GUINEA. The natives of this port were found to be on good terms with the

mission, and are well-behaved and law-abiding.

From Tube Tube a course was made for Nivani. The station was in good order. Excepting that the Pannaieti people have not quite got over their fondness for roving, their behaviour is satisfactory enough.

After leaving Nivanio, Sudest was visited, and on the return missionary matters were very quiet. Gold-digging was still

on the decline in Sudest.

After the steamer returned to Samarai she proceeded to Dobu, where the Acting Administrator was left with the lugger "Peuleule," whilst the "Merrie England" went over to

Queensland.

12. After the steamer left Dobu, as mentioned in last paragraph, a stay of two or three days was made at Dobu, and several places in the neighbourhood visited. Then the lugger went to Sikiruku on Fergusson Island, and from thence along the coast of Normanby Island to Samarai. At Bakera the constabulary surprised a hill village, and arrested two men who had been concerned in a tribal feud homicide.

On the return of the steamer to Samarai a start was made for the Trobriands. The steamer anchored off the islet of Iaga in that group shortly before sunset on the 6th March. At about half-past six in the evening a prolonged earthquake shock was

experienced.

On the following morning Kavatari was reached, and a visit paid to the Wesleyan Mission and the native villages. A large number of natives were assembled at Kavatari, as the annual trading trip to Goodenough Island was on the point of starting. The earthquake had been felt very sensibly at Kavatari, and had made a small hole in the ground at the back of the village. The Chief Pulitari had explained the reason of the earthquake to his people, and had put the matter in a favourable light. Wesleyan Mission here are having very up-hill work in their efforts to get these volatile natives to take more serious views of life.

Leaving a party at Kavatari to visit inland villages, the steamer proceeded to the island of Sim Sim. The principal object in going to Sim Sim was to look for some natives of the Island of Nusa, These people had been working on a plantanear New Ireland. tion in German New Guinea. A deadly disease had made its appearance on the plantation, which so alarmed these natives that they helped themselves to a boat and fled. After being subjected to the most severe privations, which cost some of them their lives, the boat with the survivors reached Sim Sim, where the natives treated the castaways very well. These Nusa people were taken

to Samarai.

At Sim Sim the earthquake had been felt, but the principal result at this place of the terrestrial disturbance had been the formation of a wave somewhere to the south-west of the island. This wave had swept over the low portion of the island, drowning one child and destroying the houses of the village. The earthquake shock itself appears to have been most severe at the Island of New Guinea. Kawa, a few miles to the south-west of Sim Sim, although the sea wave had apparently not touched Kawa.

BRITISE 1894-5.

From Sim Sim a return was made to Kavatari, calling at Kadawaga. After leaving Kavatari, Sinaketa was touched at, and that place and an inland village visited.

The next place visited was Sanaroa. According to the Wesleyan Mission, a tale, firmly believed in by the natives, had got abroad to the effect that two of the Samarai boat boys had violated two women of a Sanaroa village. On enquiry the story was found to be untrue.

From Sanaroa the steamer proceeded to Dobu, and thence to Begassi. From Begassi a party went inland to inquire into the killing of a native of a lowland village by a mountaineer. It was found that a man had been killed. The spot in the mountain side where the village of the culprit was situate was pointed out. As from all accounts it was not a large village, the native sergeant with a strong contingent was sent on with orders to arrest the culprit if possible. The rest of the party spent the day in visiting villages.

It so happened that on this day a large band of mountaineers had come down to fight the lowlanders. The sergeant and his men came on the two parties, each of which at the time occupied opposite banks of a small mountain stream. Hostilities, however, had not yet begun. The natives were ordered to return to their The lowlanders obeyed, but the mountaineers defied and attacked our party. A rather sharp engagement ensued, which resulted in some of the mountaineers being killed. According to the sergeant, he and his men, however, had eventually to retreat. As there seemed to be some likelihood that the mountaineers might be continuing hostilities, a strong party was got together, which went as far as the spot where the fight took place. Nothing was seen or heard of the mountaineers, and apparently they had no desire for any more fighting.

The next stoppage was at Wamira, in Bartle Bay. A visit was paid to the Anglican Mission. Then the villages in Goodenough Bay and at Cape Vogel were visited. The people at the latter place were, as usual, quiet and friendly. They gave information of a wave having swept in on the mainland near Mount Victory, apparently at the same hour that the wave struck the island of Sim Sim.

On anchoring at Wamira again a large party of miners who had been searching for gold in the hills at the back of that place were found camped at the village. They had no means of getting anywhere, and asked the Government for assistance. suited them, and what was in the power of the Government to do without expending too much time or coal, was to take them to Paiwa at the head of Goodenough Bay. This was done, and the miners placed on a good footing with Rebuna, the Chief of Paiwa, who let his people go with them as guides and carriers.

From Wamira a return was made to Samarai, calling at Taupota and at Bakera, in Normanby Island. After leaving Samarai the steamer proceeded up the coast to Port Moresby. On the way, the villages on Dufaure Island and on the Amazon Islands and the coast opposite were visited. Calls were also made at Dedere and Domara. The natives in the neighbourhood of these latter places were apparently all at peace with one another. But information of the massacre of some Ganai people by a band of mountaineers was received. No one seemed to know precisely where this band came from, excepting that it was from some spot inland to the north-west of Domara.

13. Towards the end of April a trip through portions of the Central District was begun. Calling at Kapa Kapa, Kerepuna, and Aroma, the steamer, on the 25th April, anchored off the entrance to Marshall's Lagoon. On the way the Government Agent at Rigo and several of the Aroma village police were taken on board.

After landing at Bilirupu, inquiries were made to ascertain what villages the mountaineers who had lately attacked the Ganai people came from. One village that had taken part in the massacre was known, and one man was discovered who said he knew the way to this village. It was decided to pay this village Carriers having been obtained, the expedition proceeded in boats and canoes to the head of the lagoon. On the third day after leaving the lagoon the village was reached. It is called Puneaburu, and is situate on the summit of a wooded mountain, at an altitude of some 3,000 feet or so above sea level. attempt to surprise the village during the previous night by an advanced party of constabulary and village police was frustrated by the flooding of some mountain streams. The advanced party nearly surprised the village in the daytime. As it was, however, the inhabitants caught sight of the party and fled into the neighbouring ranges. The expedition returned to Bilirupu.

The country between the head of the lagoon and the village of Puneaburu consisted entirely of wooded hills of no great height. The soil seemed to be good everywhere. The country was very sparsely populated. Only one small village was passed between the lagoon and Puneaburu, and no traces of gardens, except such

as belonged to these two villages, were seen.

From Bilirupu the steamer went to Bula, where several villages were visited. After leaving Bula, the next stoppage was at Kapa Kapa. A stay was made at Rigo station, and a trip inland was undertaken. The trip occupied four days, during which a number of villages were visited. The principal object of the trip was to visit a Garia hill village. A man of this village had killed his wife; he and his friends had defied the constabulary sent from the station to arrest him. The latter wisely did not wish a collision. The Garia people were elated at this, and expressed their intention to resist any Government party. On hearing of the approach of our present party, they altered their minds, and the homicide was given up without further trouble. He was tried in the neighbouring village and convicted of manslaughter.

As a whole, the people of this district were found to be well BRITISH behaved, but they apparently will need constant supervision for New Guinea. 1894-5. some time to come.

From Rigo a walk was taken to Kaile, the villages on the way being inspected. They were in good order. The two village constables who look after these villages are both energetic men. From Kaile the steamer returned to Port Moresby.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS.

14. The Resident Magistrate for the Western Division considers that the natives are making satisfactory progress in his district. A number of the young men have been employed in the pearlshelling boats during the year, and a sum of over 1,000l. has been paid to them as wages. Trade in his district has not been so good as the impetus it took for a short time in 1894 seemed to indicate that it would be. In addition to the Government gardens on Daru, the constables have their own gardens, in which they cultivate a large quantity of vegetable food. The health of the district has been fair. Village chiefs and constables have done their work as well as could be expected from them.

15. There is no report from the Resident Magistrate of the Central Division. Owing to somewhat exceptional circumstances, the office has been exercised at different times in the year by diffe-The present Resident Magistrate only entered upon his duties a few months prior to the end of the year. There are no reports either from the Government Agents of Rigo and Mekeo, subdivisions of the Central Division. The officers who fill these posts were away on leave during seven months of the year. The division has been, on the whole, in a satisfactory state. The only serious native disturbances were due to the action of hill tribes. During 1894 the attacks made by hill tribes on their lowland neighbours were more numerous than in any recent year. But this was not the result of combination. In all cases, action was taken as soon as possible, and the disorders subsided. The village constables in this division are unquestionably improving, and some of them now bring in offenders without waiting for instructions or assistance. Crime in the coast villages of the division has decidedly decreased. Native cultivation has increased, especially in the neighbourhood of Port Moresby. In the Mekeo district the natives suffered somewhat in their goods, both their pigs and their taro having been attacked by diseases; but, owing to the abundance of vegetable food in that locality, they have not suffered in their persons from this.

16. Mr. Moreton, the present Resident Magistrate for the Eastern Division, has sent in a reportfor the year, but, as he only entered upon his office on the 4th of February 1895, the report is necessarily not so comprehensive as it would otherwise be. Fights between tribes appear to be now things of the past, so far as the archipelagoes, the south coast, and a portion of the northeast coast are concerned. The pearl-fishing industry in the

Trobriands has not been so brisk as it was in the first half of the year 1894, the most accessible beds having been exhausted. But apparently the industry will subsist for some time to come. The advent into the Eastern Division of parties of gold-mining prospectors has given the officers of the district some extra work. The village constables and the native employés of the Government, who in this district are used both as constables and as boatmen, have behaved well. Mr. Moreton appends to his report an article on "Native Customs," by Dr. Lamberto Loria, which will be found placed and touched upon under the heading "Native Customs."

17. Mr. W. T. Campbell, the late Resident Magistrate for the Louisiade Division, sends in a report for that portion of the year in which he acted as such Resident Magistrate—that is, from the 23rd day of October 1894. From this report* it will be seen that Mr. Campbell did some good work in his district. His successful action in regard to certain troublesome tribes in

Misima (St. Aignan) Island should produce good results.

At the time that Mr. Campbell wrote his report he appears to have been in a dissatisfied state both with the accordmodation provided for the Resident Magistrate and the means furnished him for carrying out his duties. This from Mr. Campbell would hardly have been expected, as several years ago he cheerfully fulfilled the duties attached to the same post, at a time when the Resident Magistrate had to content himself with a tent or a native house for a dwelling, had to make the best he could of raw native employées, and had to work at reducing to order a district which then knew next to nothing about law or order. may be as well to take Mr. Campbell's grievances in detail. regards the house, it is as elaborate a building as the Government could afford to put up, and is the kind of house that is usually built by Europeans in this country. The gaol, it may be mentioned, is a strong log house, divided into fairly spacious cells. As regards the detachment of constabulary or assistants being natives of the district and not natives from some other district, it may be observed that the advantages of local over foreign natives, or the converse, is a matter which furnishes an unfailing source from which to draw grievances. One officer will give it as his opinion that foreign natives are useless because they do not know the district or the natives thereof, or their language, or their ways, and so forth. His successor is equally certain that the natives of the district are useless, because they have too many friends and relatives, and, being near their homes, are not so obedient, and so on. With respect to the village constables of the district, some of them have undoubtedly been of decided assistance to the The cutter is not new, but she was thoroughly Government. repaired in the beginning of 1895. She should be large enough in a district the waters of which are studded with islands, alongside one of which an anchorage can always be obtained. She has

^{*} Not printed.

invariably been deemed a good and fast sailing boat by the men who have sailed her. To show that Mr. Campbell was not NEW GUINEA. neglected in the matter of assistants, it may be mentioned that one of the best native employés of the Government, whom Mr. Campbell was well satisfied with, was sent to him as his chief assistant, and that six convicts from other districts, who, as will be noticed in his report, Mr. Campbell speaks well of, were selected as reliable and well-conducted men by the head gaoler, and sent to

Nivani to form a nucleus of intelligent labourers.

18. The Commandant of the armed constabulary sends in a report* for that period of the year during which the force was From this report it will be seen that what is termed the field force has visited most of the coastal districts of the Possession during the year. The fact that natives get over their liking for home to such an extent that they stay on in the force is a proof that the life is an attractive one. The service enlarges the views of the young men who compose the force. The force being drawn from all parts of the Possession, there is a great diversity of type and character and, although youths from one or neighbouring districts are apt to keep together, it is not unusual amongst older members of the force to see strong intimacies established between lads that have come from districts widely apart. Although, as might naturally be expected from a number of youths, there is plenty of chaff and a certain amount of rough play amongst them, quarrels or fights are practically unknown. One fight, which started between two of a small detachment at work on the Government jetty at Port Moresby, was promptly put a stop to by the native corporal in charge, who arrested the two angry youths and took them forthwith before the Commandant, to the satisfaction of the rest of the members of the force, who freely expressed their opinion that the conduct of their two comrades was disgraceful: they were both put in the lockup for a short period.

PRISONS

19. From the report* of the head gaoler it will be seen that the health of the prisoners has been good. There is nothing unusual in this, as the average health of the prisoners is better than that of any equal number of natives in any part of the Possession. natives get sick in prison, not only do they get medical treatment but, what is equally important, they are compelled to take care of themselves until they are well.

Without fully endorsing the observation of the head gaoler that the prisoners regard their imprisonment as an atonement for their misdeeds, it is certain that they do not lose caste by being When they go back to their villages they have the status that they had before, with the addition of the superiority which the knowledge they have acquired about the Government and the white men gives them over their fellow villagers.

* Not printed.

BRITISH 1894-5.

The system of appointing prisoners as warders has been very successful. The paid warders and guards are nearly always young men. The prisoner warders are mostly men of middle age, with, at all events, a pretty fair knowledge of their own people. The prisoners themselves are quite willing to obey these warders, for whom, as a rule, they have more regard than they have for at least new regular warders. The prisoners appreciate being promoted, and perform their duties as warders as if they were much impressed with the responsibilities of the position.

The number of prisoners in the different gaols on the 30th June, 1895, was 110, distributed as follows:—Port Moresby, 53; Samarai, 20; Daru, 11; Mekeo, 8; Rigo, 5; Mivani, 13. Of these, 73 were under sentences imposed by the Central Court. The number of prisoners discharged during the year was 200. Many of these were men who were in gaol for short periods under the Native Regulation. Of the remainder, a fair proportion were

cases that eventually were dismissed.

ESTABLISHMENTS.

20. Through the death of Mr. Frank Ernest Lawes, the service lost a good officer, and the natives of Port Moresby and neighbourhood a friend, for whom they had much regard. Lawes's long residence in the Possession, and the fact that he was the son of the Rev. W. G. Lawes, D.D., had brought him into more familiar contact with the natives than any other officer in the The office of Resident Magistrate for the Central District, which became vacant in August, 1894, through the death of Mr. F. E. Lawes, was filled up by the appointment, in England, of Dr. J. A. Blayney, who arrived in the Possession at the end of January. Dr. Blayney combines with his duties of Resident Magistrate those of Government Medical Officer for the Possession. In the interval that elapsed between the death of Mr. Lawes and the arrival of Dr. Blayney, the work attached to the office of Resident Magistrate was performed by Mr. D. Ballantine and Mr. W. E. Armit.

The Resident Magistrate for the Eastern District, Mr. J. M. Hennessy, left Samarai on leave in June, 1895, and resigned his office whilst away from the Possession. Until the arrival at Samaria of Mr. M. H. Moreton, the present Resident Magistrate, the Eastern District was in charge of Mr. R. J. Kennedy. assisted by Mr. J. Meredith, whilst the latter officer was stationed at Samaria.

Mr. H. N. Chester was transferred from the position of Resident Magistrate, Louisiade Division, to the office of Storekeeper, &c., at Port Moresby, at the beginning of the financial year. After Mr. Chester's departure from Nivani, the Louisiade Division was successively under the charge of Mr. J. Graham, Mr. A. W. Butterworth, and Mr. W. T. Campbell.

The Government Agents for Rigo and Mekeo were away on leave from July, 1894, to the end of January, 1895. During their absence, Mr. W. E. Armit performed the duties of both

offices, dividing his time between the two districts.

Mr. John Meredith was at the beginning of the year appointed Head Gaoler for the Possession and Overseer of Works. The NEW GUINEA. post of Sub-Collector at Daru was at the commencement of the year temporarily filled by Mr. H. W. de Lange. Mr. J. Graham then held the office for a short time, when he resigned. Upon the resignation of Mr. Graham, Mr. H. W. de Lange was appointed to the office.

BRITISH 1894-5.

Mr. J. Green held the office of Special Agent in Cloudy Bay during the second half of the year 1894. This was a temporary office, and ceased when order had been re-established amongst the tribes at the back of Cloudy Bay.

PUBLIC PROPERTY and PUBLIC WORKS.

21. Two additions were made during the year to the vessels of the Government. A new launch was landed at Daru in June, She is intended practically for river navigation. ketch, the exact counterpart of the "Lokohu," was brought over in February, 1895, to Samarai. She is employed in the Eastern Division, the vessel previously used there, the "Peuleule," being transferred to the West.

The principal piece of work accomplished during the year was the filling up of the swamp at Samarai. This, for the Possession, heavy task was practically completed in February, 1895, but the settling down of the loose earth will render it necessary for some time to level up the flat here and there. The healthiness, utility, and appearance of the island are all enhanced by the disappearance of the swamp, and by the increase of solid level ground.

After the return to Port Moresby of the Head Gaoler with the prisoners that had been at work at the Samarai swamp, the labour at the port was mostly employed in making roads near the port.

Various improvements were effected on Daru Island during the A simple but commodious house for the magistrate, a custom-house, and various other buildings, all constructed of materials indigenous to the Possession, were put up. Land was cleared and planted, and the new station generally improved.

At Nivani the chief work done was the clearing and planting of land.

The natives of Port Moresby and adjacent villages cleared and kept clear the main track that leads from the port over to the sea coast, and thence goes eastwardly, also some shorter ones. As was to be expected, there was a little grumbling at having to do this work. Each village cleared as much of the track as went through its land. This is the law, but the natives themselves, once the clearing was inevitable, insisted on this, even though, as it happened, one small village had to do a disproportionate amount of work. Each village evidently came to the conclusion that if it permitted other villages to do any work on its land it might look as if the people of the other villages were owners, or part owners, of the land. There does not seem to have been any difference of opinion as to the boundaries of the land of each village; all seemed

to know quite well where the boundaries were. They managed the whole matter amongst themselves, without any Government supervision.

TRADE.

Detailed tables of imports and exports, navigation, and postal matters will be found in the Appendic s to this Report.*

Imports.

22. The total of imports entered at Port Moresby, Samarai, and Daru, respectively, has been :—

Year.		Samarai. Port Moresby.		Daru.	Total.	
1888–89		-	£ 6,016	£ 5,019	£	£ 11,108
1889-90			6,798	9,305		16,104
1890–91		-	7,455	. 8,075	-1	15,530
1891–92			10,379	13,377	_	23,755
1892-93	-	-	13,173	12,088	-	25,261
1893-94	-	-	15,331	11,428	1,741	28,501
1894–95	-	-	12,079	14,036	2,253	28,367

The principal items imported have been :-

-		1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894–95.
Food stuffs -		£ 5,400	£ 7,124	£ 4,463	£ 6,037	£ 6,252	£ 7,181	£ 8,062
Drapery -		1,185	1,392	1,457	2,133	2,918	2,687	2,607
Tobacco and cigars	3 -	996	1,290	2,354	3,257	2,407	3,985	3,059
Hardware -	-	927	1,123	1,535	2,677	2,828	3,162	3,440
Beverages -		805	1,143	688	890	1,625	1,760	1,116
Clothes -		550	190	255	705	496	315	294
Building materials	-	246	1,086	1,224	1,965	1,474	2,889	1,727
Other articles		999	2,756	3,554	6,091	7,261	6,522	7,997
Total -		11,108	16,104	15,530	23,755	25,261	28,501	28,302

Food stuffs show a marked increase, which is probably due to a slightly larger European population than to the fact that natives in parts where they earn money consume more European food than they used to do. The decrease in tobacco is not easily accounted tor, as smoking gets to be every year a more widelyspread practice. Building materials are less, but then a large

^{*} Not printed.

quantity of building materials was imported in the previous year, Miscellaneous article show a considerable increase. Hardware also New Guinea. shows an increase, and, as appears from the foregoing tables, has steadily increased all along.

BRITISH 1894-5.

Exports.

23. The total value of exports, as entered at the Custom House, has been :-

Year.		Samarai.	Port Moresby.	Daru.	Total.	
1888-89		-	£ 5,071	£ 871	£	£ 5,943
1889-90		-	5,458	997	A	6,455
1890-91		-	7,678	755	1-1	8,434
1891-92	-	-	8,099	3,190	well in	11,289
1892-93			6,290	8,675	_	14,966
1893-94		-	9,555	3,542	1,854	14,952
894-95	V4.	-	8,399	5,059	2,757	116,215

The total exports show an increase of over 1,200%. does not stand first in the list for this year. Most, if not the whole, of the gold was from Sudest and St. Aignan. The following tabulated statement gives the returns since the establishment of the Possession of the gold exported and reported at the Customs :--

-			1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.
Ounces			3,850	3,470	2,426	1,235	582	1,128	728
Value -	20,00	4.	£14,387	12,440	8,371	4,322	2,236	3,906	2,565

Pearlshell was the chief export in value, the export standing at Sandalwood increased, the quantity exported being 378 tons, valued at 2,568l. Pearls are set down at 1,330l. The largest export of pearls was in the first half of 1894. In the case of pearls and gold, the exports are by no means all reported at the Customs.

The quantity of copra exported and its value were much the same as in the previous year. It may be some years before there will be any marked increase in this article. Natives use most of the nuts, and, although planting cocoanuts goes on, it will be some years before there is a greater extent of fruit-bearing The following represents the exports of copra for the past few years:-

						£
1888-89			76	tons,	valued at	550
1889-90		-	43	99	99	250
1890-91		-	198	99	,,	1,433
1891-92	-		340	99	,,,	2,084
1892-93	-	-	194	"	,,,	1,159
1893-94		-	450	"	"	2,885
1894–95	-		427	,,	"	2,830

Indiarubber appears for the first time as an export, over two hundredweight having been exported. To what extent it will in the future become an export is extremely difficult to foretell. As yet the number of species of trees that produce indiarubber is not There is every reason to suppose that this article will take a more prominent position in next year's Report.

The cultivation of sponges was begun during the year at an establishment started in the Conflict Group. There is abundance of wild sponge in the coral lagoons of the Possession. Apparently, therefore, there should be no drawback to its cultivation. The totalamount of the trade f or the year came to-

Shipping.

24. The shipping entered inwards and outwards was wholly The total number of foreign-going vessels entered inwards was 104, representing 6,605 tons; the entries outwards were 78 vessels, representing 6,082 tons. Many of the vessels are small craft that are engaged in the Torres Straits fishery.

The coasting vessels entered were 59; tonnage, 2,471. The mail schooner has run regularly throughout the year.

Postal.

25. The postal business up to the end of June, 1895, was as follows:-

Article.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95
Letters received -	2,366	3,166	2,664	4,393	4,679	6,280	6,279
Letters despatched -	2,587	2,586	2,191	3,917	4,011	5,297	6,189
Packets received -	93	111	142	45	230	157	129
Packets despatched -	98	84	88	78	427	467	468
Newspapers received	4,071	6,845	6,042	8,505	6,749	8,131	7,046
Newspapers despatched.	574	590	468	756	276	240	776

FINANCE.

Revenue.

BRITISH [NEW GUINEA. 1894-5.

26. The amount of revenue paid into the Queensland Treasury by the Possession during the year was 5,109l. It is compared below with that of preceding years:—

Items.	1888-89	1889–90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.
Customs dues	£ 2,416	£ 2,893	£ 2,525	£ 4,428	£ 3,757	£ 5,067	£ 4,622
Gold field receipts	- 187	20	23	24	23	54	26
Fees	- 2	4	4	10	157	115	78
Fines	- 25	41	46	34	24	22	27
Licenses -	- 2	11	21	136	106	317	247
Miscellaneous	- 42	44	53	149	535	291	109
Total -	- 2,679	3,015	2,673	4,783	4,604	5,866	5,109

Expenditure.

The sum of 15,000*l*, available for the ordinary Adminstrative Services of the year was fully expended. The expenditure is classified and compared as follows with that of previous years:—

Head of Expenditure.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890–91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95
Civil list salaries -	£ 2,633	£ 3,300	£ 3,290	£ 3,300	£ 3,300	£ 3,300	£ 3,248
Other salaries -	1,796	2,381	3,476	3,559	3,707	3,479	3,640
Vessels and boats -	2,747	2,564	2,938	2,993	1,600	1,308	2,114
Allowances	1,296	2,548	1,500	1,356	1,748	1,454	1,614
Buildings and works	185	1,144	979	780	872	435	397
Agriculture	2	137	355	335	146	203	145
Mail service	445	-	-	8 -	450	750	900
Miscellaneous -	1,662	2,898	2,459	2,675	3,174	4,071	2,942
Total	10,769	14,975	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000

SS. "Merrie England."

28. During the year ending the 30th June 1895, the "Merrie England" ran 13,315 miles and consumed 595 tons of coal, making an average distance of 22:38 miles for each ton of coal.

The financial year of the steamer ends with the 31st March. The gross total expenditure for the 12 months, including price of new launch, was 8,013l. 10s. 5d. Of this 469l. 8s. 10d. was met by earnings, leaving a net expenditure of 7,544l. 1s. 7d. The Imperial Government provided 3,500l. and the three contributing colonies 1,166l. 13s. 4d. each for the steamer's maintenance.

A new steam launch for the steamer was purchased in England during the year. The new launch is far superior in power and sea-going qualities to the old launch, and is very useful for coasting and river work. The balance of 544l. 1s. 7d., brought over from the previous year, was granted to the Possession for the purpose of being used in defraying the cost of the new launch, and has been expended for that purpose.

METEOROLOGY.

29. The only completed returns for the year that have come to hand in time for insertion in this Report are those from Port Moresby and Daru.* Some incomplete returns have been received from Samarai and Mekeo. Mr. C. Terfloth, who resided for some months continuously on the plateau of the Astrolabe Range, at an elevation of some 2,000 feet above the sea, also furnished some notes. The Astrolabe Range may be said to be the edge of the highlands. From these incompleted returns, and from the Port Moresby and Daru returns, the following comparisons of degrees of heat are made. The thermometer from which the figures were taken was the "Attached thermometer," and the time was 9 a.m., except for the Astrolabe June observations, which appear to have been taken at about 7 a.m. The year is 1895.

Locali	Month.			Highest Record	d. Lowest Record		
Astrolabe -	1	-	May		•	74.0	70.0
Astrolabe -	-	-	June		-	74.4	68.2
Samarai -		-	May			77.0	72.0
Samarai -	-	-	June	/		77.0	72.0
Port Moresby		-	May		i i	83.0	79.0
Port Moresby	-	-	June			81.0	74.0
Daru -			May		- 2	81.3	73.3
Daru -			June	1	-	79.3	76.3

The lower temperature of the hill country is noticeable. Had the observations been of the lowest temperature in the 24 hours the difference would have been more marked, as the nights are often quite chilly in the hills.

The south-east wind set in very early in 1895, and has been very strong. Although for a short time after the south-east wind sets in in the Port Moresby district it frequently is accompanied by rain, a continuous strong south-east wind is, in the end, apparently productive of very dry weather.

GOLD-MINING.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1894-5.

30. Gold-mining, as a money-earning industry, did not advance during the year. The alluvial mining was much the same as in the previous year, and although a good deal of labour was spent during the year on the quartz reefs discovered in Sudest, no definite steps had at the end of the year been taken to begin actual quartz-mining. But although mining remained as before, the search for gold-bearing country took a fresh start, and was in progress when the year ended.

A rather feeble attempt was made to find gold in the islands of Normanby and Fergusson. Only two or three men were engaged in this undertaking. Their search did not last long, and they did not go any distance from the seacoast. They did not find any payable gold, but it cannot be said that this is a proof of its non-

existence.

In September, 1894, 15 miners arrived from Queensland, went to Bartle Bay on the north-east coast, and searched the hill country at the back of the Bay. The death of one of the party—killed by the hillmen—put an end to the expedition. The country in which they sought for gold is very hilly, not to say mountainous, hard to travel over, and difficult to prospect. The ravines are said to be much filled up with soil that has only recently been washed into them from the surface of the hills. The party found particles of gold here and there, and obtained in all about 7 ozs. of the metal. Four or five of the party subsequently went back to the same localities, but finally joined the next party that came there, and left again.

In the beginning of March, 13 miners came over to the Possession, who were sent in a Government vessel to Bartle Bay. They went inland, joined the few miners who were there, and they all searched the country for some weeks, but without success. All the men then returned to the coast. They were taken in the "Merrie England," and were landed at the head of Goodenough Bay. From that point they made various trips inland in different directions, but did not come across gold. They suffered

much from sickness, and in the end went back to Samarai.

On the 10th April a party of miners, under the leadership of Mr. Clarke, an experienced Queensland gold-miner, arrived. They first went to Bartle Bay, but, not considering that country worth their while to prospect, they returned to the coast. After this they proceeded up the north-east coast to the Mambare (Clyde) River. They were still at that river on the 30th June last.

NATIVE CUSTOMS.

31. The Rev. Copland King has forwarded a very complete account of the native customs governing the tenure of land in the Bartle Bay district. Although Mr. King simply calls his paper "Notes on Land Tenure," it contains interesting information on other matters besides land, such as special ownership in fruit trees, ownership in personal property, and the position of children whose parents belong to different tribes. Appendix Q., page 39.

British New Guinea. 1894-5.

32. Mr. C. E. Kennedy, formerly with the Anglican Mission, contributes a paper on the land tenure of the Taupota district. He also deals with personal property, and gives details relative to the history of the settlement in the district of the people that have occupied it for some time past. Mr. Kennedy's notes are clear and explicit. Appendix R., page 42.

33. Dr. Lamberto Loria has, at the special request of the Resident Magistrate for the Eastern Division, furnished an account of the old war customs of the natives of the island of Logea. Dr. Loria has latterly spent most of his time in obtaining information on the customs of the natives. As will be seen, Dr. Loria explains his use of the present tense in his description of the different customs. In order to render his description life-like, Dr. Loria has also sketched an imaginary war expedition, and in the tale he introduces the various customs as incidents of the expedition. To obtain a reliable account from natives of their customs, and especially of those which they are not now permitted to practise, requires the exercise of much pertinacity and patience.

Appendix S., page 44.

34. The Resident Magistrate for the Western Division, Mr. Hely, under the heading of "Notes on Totemism, &c.," gives a number of particulars illustrating native customs. The regarding patches of the marine herbs which form the food of the dugong as private and not as common property is remarkable; although, bearing in mind what a valuable animal to the Western natives the dugong is, the custom is not an eccentric one. It is fortunate that Mr. Hely's interference with the spirits of Daru was not coincident with any calamity, and it is satisfactory to know that the natives at and near Daru have concluded, as natives in other parts of the Possession have likewise done, that the Government is above the influence of the spirits. To anyone who is acquainted with Daru and the coast of the mainland near to Daru, Mr. Hely's account of the superstitious fears inspired by the evil reputation of the island are very interesting. The superiority of Daru over the adjacent country, as well in the elevation of the land as in the fertility of the soil, is so marked that it is difficult, without a clue, to understand why the island was not fully populated by natives instead of, as was the case, possessing a very scanty population. (Appendix T., page 54.)

Mission Work.

35. The new training college of the London Missionary Society at Kapa Kapa was established during the year. This entailed much work on the Rev. Dr. Lawes and Mrs. Lawes. The situation is a most suitable one. The buildings are on a hill, from which a fine view is obtained both seaward and landward. The ground attached to the college is fertile, and a fair quantity of it is already under cultivation. The district is a healthy one, the nights being freshened by the breezes that come from the island ranges.

From the Rev. Mr. Pearse's district some new stations have been formed. This district keeps well to the front in its school New GUINEA. and church attendance.

BRITISH

At Kwato many improvements have been effected. It being the object of the Rev. Mr. Abel to have as many young people on the island as circumstances admit, much labour in the way of house building has to be done. Most of these houses are of native material, but more neatly built than the residences of the natives usually are. It is deemed desirable to instil into the natives a liking for good clean houses and orderly surroundings. An industrial plantation has been started near to Kwato. This is to a certain extent connected with the Kwato station, but the cost of this most useful undertaking is borne by Mr. Abel and friends.

The Rev. Mr. Dauncey has been pretty well occupied in putting the station at Delena into working order and in visiting the neighbouring districts. The Rev. Mr. Holmes has been actively engaged in visiting the numerous villages in the Gulf of Papua and, during the absence of the Rev. Mr. Walker, in inspecting the Western district. The latter gentleman left the Possession on leave towards the middle of 1895. One of his duties whilst away is to procure a suitable vessel for the work of

the mission in the Western district.

36. The Sacred Heart Mission has had its staff increased during the year, and is steadily establishing new stations in the valley of the St. Joseph River, and improving those already established. The mission wisely furnishes stock-horses and cattle-to its stations, and provides for the liberal cultivation of fruit and vegetables. Unfortunately many of its members, and especially the Sisters, suffer a good deal from sickness. The district, at least in the summer months, is hot and moist, but a fair proportion of the sickness is due apparently to ignorance as to what is the best mode of life for a tropical climate. Most of their people when they first come out have had no experience of

a tropical climate.

37. The Anglican Mission is still labouring under the disadvantage of not possessing a sufficient number of members. The Rev. Copland King has had to do most of the work himself. Two natives of the South Sea Islands, who had previously been employed in domestic service in Queensland, were brought over and placed as teachers in the new district, but it seems doubtful if these men will care to stay in the country. They are very respectable men, who certainly show that the life in Queensland has improved them, and they appear to get on very well with the natives. It is satisfactory to observe that this mission is not confining its educational work to knowledge conveyed only in the native language. A visitor to Wedau might be rather surprised to see a naked little urchin reckon up accurately in English a number of objects. Teaching the natives to count in English not only instructs them in that language but enlarges their arithmetical capabilities.

It is much to be regretted that this mission has so far not been able to place stations along the north-east coast northward of Cape Vogel. The more that is known of this coast of the Possession, and of the country at the back of it, the fairer and more ample

looms the field that it offers to missionary enterprise.

38. The Wesleyan Mission are carrying on their work with unabated energy. The Rev. Mr. Bromilow, though he has his hands full enough with the multifarious duties that fall to his lot as head of the mission, is always wishing for more coadjutors so that more could be accomplished. At Dobu young native men are now being trained as teachers. If the training turns them out satisfactory teachers, the system is susceptible of being much extended.

The Rev. Mr. Fellowes during the year opened the new station at Kiriwina, in the Trobriand Islands. He and Mr. Andrews are now thoroughly established there. The task that Mr. Fellowes has before him—namely, that of endeavouring to reclaim these cheerful but volatile islanders from ways that, if not very wicked, are at least very immoral and objectionable—is one that would weary most men. But Mr. Fellowes evidently has quite realised all the difficulties, and has not the least intention of giving in to them. Mr. Fellowes's aptitude for acquiring native dialects and his talent for gaining the confidence of natives will no doubt stand him in good stead in this fresh undertaking of his.

The Rev. Mr. Field is busily employed at Tube Tube, where he is taking steps to establish a central school where natives from his district can come and stay for awhile. The Rev. Mr. Fletcher is in charge of Panaieti, and has a wide field before him in the

numerous islands that form his district.

GENERAL.

39. A matter which during the year gave the Government much anxiety was the fear of small-pox getting into the country. This disease had made its appearance in German New Guinea in 1893, and by about April, 1894, had on the coast reached within 100 miles of that point on the eastern seaboard of New Guinea that forms the boundary between German and British New Guinea. The Government of the Possession heard nothing of the disease until the end of 1894, when information concerning it was received from his Excellency the Landeshauptmann of German New Guinea. On reflection there appeared to be a reasonable prospect of its not reaching the Possession. As none of the native servants of the Government were at that time vaccinated, it was considered best not to go and ascertain whether the disease had or had not crossed the boundary. It would have been difficult to have ascertained this without bringing some native servants of the Government, to say nothing of European officers, within reach of contagion. The various mission stations in the east were informed of all that the Government knew, and the officers in the east were instructed to be on the alert for any rumour of a disease having made its appearance on the north-east

coast. Fortunately the disease never reached the Possession, and, so far as is known, it has disappeared in German New New Guinea. Guinea. As soon as vaccine lymph was obtained, the constabulary and prisoners, as well as other native servants of the Government, were vaccinated. The Rev. Copland King, whose station is on the north-east coast, also vaccinated some of the natives of his district. The natives did not demur to being vaccinated, and the effects of the vaccination on them were not severe. It is apparently certain that small-pox made its appearance in some parts of the island that are now included within the Possession about a quarter of a century ago. Some of the older

natives remember the disease and its baneful effects.

40. In the Annual Report for 1893-1894 reference was made to attacks by unknown hill tribes on coast tribes, which it was pointed out would probably be a source of trouble in the future. Two attacks of this nature took place during the year. The first was a raid made by a band composed of small contingents from the hill tribes at the back of the Astrolabe Range, on a coast village about 30 miles from Port Moresby, the inhabitants of which they nearly exterminated. This raid was certainly a surprise to the Government, as some of the tribes mixed up in it undoubtedly knew of the Government. The ringleaders appear to have been a small hill tribe called the Kaohi. Two expeditions were sent to the Astrolabe. The natives attacked the first and lost some men killed and captured. Much of the work of the second expedition consisted in reassuring natives who had not taken part in the raid. The natives of the range and the country behind it seemed to have awakened to the recollection that there was a Government, and there was a universal scare for some months throughout the district. It is highly improbable that any more raids will be made from this district.

The second attack was made by some of the mountain tribes at the back of Cape Rodney on some people of the Cloudy Bay Great difficulty was experienced in finding where this band came from. The locality of one village that had taken part in the attack was at length ascertained, and it was visited. surprise of the village failed, and the inhabitants escaped to the hills. It was a good distance from this village to where the attack was made, but a native war party, especially when it consists of hillmen, can get over a great deal of even very rough country in

two or three days.

The constabulary had a fight during the year with the hillmen of Fergusson Island. But it is doubtful if the killmen were making a raid on the lowlands, though they had come down with

the intention of fighting the coast people.

41. The village constable system has been steadily increased where needed during the year. As a rule the men appointed justify their choice. They are in most cases, when not men who have been in the armed coustabulary or in the Government service, men of influence in the villages. Men who through age or through

BRITISH 1894-5.

their possessing a family do not care to leave their districts will readily agree to become village constables. Some of the more experienced of the village constables understand their duties very well. In the large coast villages from Port Moresby to Aroma there are several very efficient men. Not only do they look after their own people, but they learn and inform the Government of any breaches of the law committed inland. They are also quite As an instance of ready to accompany officers in inland trips. their use the following may be given.—On the 30th November last the steamer reached Aroma about 2 p.m. One of the village constables at once came off in a canoe. He was told that two witnesses were wanted from Bilirupu, a village fourteen miles away. He said he would look after the matter. The following morning the Bilirupu village constable and the two witnesses were at Aroma a little after sunrise. A few years ago, even if the witnesses had not, to begin with, run away into the bush, it would have taken at least a couple of days to have got them. A native will believe and have confidence in a village constable who is a relative or friend of his, and he also knows that he cannot easily elude his village constable.

42. A certain amount of occupation of land by private persons took place in the year. A few new European buildings were added to the small settlement at Port Moresby. On the Crown lands at Badili, near Port Moresby, some half-dozen houses, built of indigenous materials, have been erected by natives from different islands of the Pacific who are settled in the Possession. On the Laroki River, 12 miles inland from Port Moresby, an energetic settler has shown that a European can do manual labour, and that European vegetables can be grown even in the lowlands. A small plantation was started on the plateau of the Astrolabe Range, and though apparently it was not a success, the enterprising colonist to whom the plantation belonged had no fault to find with the soil,

and was much pleased with the climate of the uplands.

I have, &c. Francis P. Winter.

His Excellency
Sir Arthur Hunter Palmer, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c.

Lieutenant-Governor of Queensland.

APPENDIX Q.

BRITISH
NEW GUINEA.
1894-5.

Notes on Native Tenure and other Customs of the Bartle Bay District, by the Rev. Copland King, of the Anglican Mission.

The following paper contains the results of inquiries made in the villages of Wedau and Wamira, Bartle Bay, on the north-east coast of British New Guinea. The subjects treated follow in general order the questions on native land tenure issued by the Government in 1893.

The position of the lands of the Wamira tribe is on the west shore of Bartle Bay. On the shore to the south-east the gully Iwagani divides Wamira from Divari. The boundary then runs to the foot of the hills, crossing the river Uruam, and westward The hills called Kalovai, the next place to Mulawa, are Wedau property. Then the boundary runs nearly due north. approaching the river Wamira, until it comes near Keva, on the shore. Here it takes a turn eastwards, and runs at the back of the shore villages Poai and Kaieta, and finally reaches the shore at Iabari, where a "Mapa" tree is planted as a sign of the boundary. Wedau land extends from its Wamira boundary westwards. And the Wedau people still have rights in land and plantations at Daba, at the foot of Agi mountain, some six miles to the west, though the mountains between Wedau and Daba are generally hunted by the natives who live beyond the latter place. It was at Daba that the ancestors of the majority of these two tribes once lived. Apparently the grandfathers of the middle-aged men were born at Daba. But, in order to escape the constant incursions of the mountaineers, the whole Daba tribe moved eastwards. Some of them settled in Wamira, purchasing what land they required from the original inhabitants, and paying for it with pigs. Sometimes, when members of the original families try to taunt the descendants of the colonists with the ground not belonging to them, the answer is given: "We (i.e., our ancestors) paid for it when we came, and you said the payment was sufficient.' The Wamirans, however, soon found that they were rather crowded, as up till that time they had lived at the north end of their district only, called Wadubo. (In the dialect this word means old.) So a good many of them moved up the bay, and formed the Rumaruma settlement. At present the approximate population of Wadubo is 177, and of Ruma-ruma 206. The emigrants from Daba, who did not join the Wamira tribe, settled along the shore between the Wamira boundary and the Wamira River, but, not liking the place on account of its being very much exposed to winds and waves, they soon moved to the more sheltered position to the west of the Wamira River. This Wedau village derives its name from a patch of ground within its limits. The Wamira River now runs entirely in Wedau ground, but the name may possibly have belonged to the original inhabitants before the Daba people divided the land with them. Wedau people

generally speak of Wamira as Papairina, and the people on the other side of Goodenough Bay have other names for both these

villages.

It is necessary to understand the family system among these people. It will be noticed that I have used the word "tribe" to signify the community living in Wedau or in Wamira. distinction between these two communities is very strongly marked. The Rev. A. A. Maclaren, during his short residence here, noticed several points of contrast. The language, however, is identical, except with regard to occasional words, which for some reason or other have become tabooed in one or other As will be seen further on, there is no hard-and-fast line separating the tribes. But the division into families is also of great social importance. It is difficult to find a native word to describe the different districts, coastal or mountain; but the word "Dam," which signifies what I venture to call the family, is of very common use. Each "Dam," has its own specific name, "Bariawa," and it is composed of members related to each other through their mothers. The Dam is not necessarily confined to one tribe. There are about a dozen of them in Wedau; these are mostly repeated in Wamira, and the original inhabitants have theirs in addition. Any woman marrying into another district takes her family name with her, and the children may belong to their father's tribe but their mother's family. In each tribe, as a rule, the members of one family live in one division of the village, but those who are married may either be living with their spouses in their division or may have brought their spouses to live with them. Marriage within the family is strictly for-All of similar age are reckoned as brothers and sisters. Marriage is also forbidden to those who are closely related through the father; but the father never belongs to his children's family, and therefore some parental offices and responsibilities devolve on the mother's brother. Descent, therefore, is chiefly matriarchal. All landed property is vested in the family, and the head of the family has the distribution of it, and is the representative for it, but has no power to alienate it of his own

Thus the tribal planting-grounds have been originally allotted to the different families; and, as every season successive portions are taken up, the old landmarks are remembered. But within these boundaries the representative of the family allots to each member of it the ground on which he is to grow his food. And a man may portion out to his sons some of his own family land, although they belong to another family. Apart from these planting-grounds, the other land is divided among the families, and each man may take up any land in his family property for banana patches. It may be said that the land only belongs to a man in its usufruct. When he dies his crop is divided up among his sons and his sister's children.

When strangers come to settle in a village they can generally find relations to lend them land. And sometimes when the tribes

want to cultivate land which is not allotted as the ordinary planting-grounds, but vested in a family, payment may be made NEW GUINEA. to the representative owners, in food, when the crop is ripe.

BRITISH. 1894-5.

Village ground is also thus divided among the different families, as I have already explained. And a man may build either in his wife's division or his own. But he only owns the ground by virtue of his occupation of it.

Fruit trees are private property, and may descend to the children and sister's children. A man may plant fruit trees on land which does not belong to him without forfeiting ownership in the tree. The owner of the land will look after the tree, and be paid for his services with some of its fruit. He has no right to destroy it in any way.

The rivers are said to be no one's special property. may fish in them, or may knot grass on the banks as a sign that he intends to make his dam for fishing there. Sometimes when one set of people made the dam, another lot will come and share the benefits of it by fishing in the same place. Lagoons and ponds are family property. In hunting, the family has control over its own grass lands, so far as to say when the grass is to be burnt. But anyone may join in the wallaby hunt, and any wild animal killed belongs to the man who killed it.

A woman marrying into another tribe loses her rights in her own, unless she lives near enough to do the work required on her own land. Very often she and her husband live together, part of their time in one village and part in the other. They keep up a double connection. There is no definite rule about the tribe to which the children should belong. Even after their parents are dead they may still spend their time between their father's relations and their mother's relations, and have their allotments in each. It depends on how their friends treat them, and when they grow up they generally belong to the tribe in which they have spent most of their time or into which they may marry.

The boundaries between the tribes seem to be settled definitely now. There is no talk of any possible alteration, nor has anything ever been heard about land being taken away in war or

paid in compensation for an injury.

The work at the planting-grounds may be classed as follows:-1. Tribal: such work as will benefit the whole ground—as the irrigation works.

- 2. Family: such heavy work as mowing and turning over the soil.
- 3. Individual: as breaking up the clods and planting. women take their share with the men in the heavy work occasionally, and attend to the weeding. When extra help is required the family assist and are paid in food.

Ownership in live stock is sometimes personal and sometimes is vested in the household, but not in the family ("Dam") or community. A father and his son may be part owners in a pig

and each will speak of it as his property. A litter of pigs seems generally to be shared out among the household so far as they will go.

COPLAND KING.

APPENDIX R.

Notes on Native Land Tenure and other Customs of the Natives of Taupota and Neighbourhood, by Mr. C. E. Kennedy.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report, as under, for the information of the Administrator, with regard to the subject of native land tenure by the tribe of Taupoto in the district of north-east coast.

Particulars.

1. Position of the lands of the tribe: Situated on the north-east coast, about 20 miles from East Cape and about 10 from Cape Frere.

2. Boundaries of lands of the tribe: Emurimuri Point on the

east, and a small point known as Iwa Mutuna on the west.

3. How long have they been in occupation? The grandparents of the present old men of the tribe lived in the present Taupota villages. They do not know whether their great grandparents lived in the present villages or on the hills. The Taupota tribe formerly lived on the mountains, and what is now known as Taupota was uninhabited land, without a name, and there were no cocoanut trees planted. After the tribe had increased, the people migrated to the beach and planted cocoanuts, &c., and formed villages, and the new settlement was called Taupota. The old Taupota now consists of about half-a-dozen houses only, and an enormous number of graves, and is usually called Hidaua. It is about 600 feet above sea-level, and a large number of cocoanut trees are growing there. It is not far inland—easily seen from the sea.

4. Aboriginal owners do not recognise any other rights.

5. Are planting lands allotted? Forest land has no owners. A person may go where he pleases (either on the hills or on the flat) and make a plantation, and it then becomes the property of his family only. When parents die the property descends to all the children. Each family has a number of plantations. When a man marries, all his friends go out and clear ground to make a plantation for him and wife.

6. Is individual ownership recognised? No. Children are

joint-owners with their parents of the plantations.

7. What land is held in common by the tribe? None.

8. Is family individual property hereditary? If so, does it descend in the direct line or in a collateral line? Yes. It descends in a collateral line.

9. Do women own land? Not individually. Unmarried women say that they are joint owners of their parents' plantations. New Guinea. When a girl marries she is given a portion of her parents' plantation, but it is as much her husband's and children's property as

BRITISH 1894-5.

10. Does it ever descend in the female line? Yes.

11. Do they sell or exchange land? No. No Taupota person ever heard of such a thing.

12. Do they lend or lease land? No.

13. Are all fruit and sago trees private property or common

property? Private property.

14. Do soil and the trees on it always belong to the same owner? No. In Taupota, near the Mission Station, a man planted cocoanuts in another person's village (with landowner's permission.) The landowner has now no right whatever to these trees.

15. Is there private property in water, or in fishing or hunting

rights? No.

16. Is land ever paid as compensation to an aggrieved person?

17. How is land given to native strangers settling in the tribe?

Never given under any circumstances.

18. When a woman owning land marries a man of another tribe, does her husband become owner of the land? If so, does he live in her tribe or in his own? (1.) No. (2.) The man and woman live in both tribes, a few week or months in one village, and then back to the other tribe. They also have plantations in each tribe's district.

19. How is such land inherited? Do the children belong to the woman's tribe or to the man's tribe? (1.) It is inherited by

the children. (2.) They belong to the woman's tribe.

The answers to these two questions refer to village land. As regards plantations the husband would become joint owner. (See

question 5.)

- 21. Does the tribe give its name to the land or vice versa? Tribe gives name to land. Until Taupoto tribe took possession of land where present villages are, the land had no name.
- 22. Is planting communal or individual? Neither; family. 24 Are pigs, fowls, and dogs individual or communal property? Family property.

25. Are house sites the private property of individuals; and if so, has this property any specific name. (1.) No. (2.) No.

26. Is land taken away in war? No.

28. Can a person bequeath his land to one not a blood relation,

or not a member of his own tribe? No.

29. Can an owner divide his planting land equally among his children, or give it all to one? Goes to all the children equally;

never given all to one.

31. Remarks.—A man from Wamira tribe has settled in Taupota, and is to marry a Taupota girl, but he will never be the owner of any village land in Taupota. He will live in his wife's village and she, not he, will be the owner of the place.

The man however, may make a plantation on vacant land anywhere, and it will become his property; also people will give him taro tops to plant, and cocoanuts.

C. E. KENNEDY,

Lay Missionary, Taupoto.

November 20th, 1894.

APPENDIX S.

Notes on the Ancient War Customs of the Natives of Logea and Neighbourhood, by Dr. Lamberto Loria.

DEAR MORETON, Dobu, 10 April, 1895.

THE aim of this letter of mine is to write you on the customs of the inhabitants of Logea, thus fulfilling my promise to give you some information on some past native customs gathered

by me, which you may use if you like.

As you know, I am spending all my time now in studying the natives from an anthropometrical and anthropological standpoint—viz., in measuring the natives and trying to get hold of their customs and habits the best that I can. In some places, as in Mailu, Vilirupu, &c., I have been obliged to have native or Polynesian teachers as interpreters. Therefore my information as regards those places is not so reliable as that which I can give you now, on the accuracy of which I can rely. Let me in a few words explain how it is that I am so sure of the accuracy of my statements.

As you know, I arrived last year at this end as a guest of the Rev. T. W. Walker, who very kindly has assisted me in every possible way in my work. The Rev. C. W. Abel, whom I scarcely knew then, soon saw that my work if thoroughly done would be of great assistance to him in his mission, and invited me to spend some time at Kwato to gather information concerning the customs of Logea. It is useless for me to say that I gladly accepted the invitation, and spent over two months doing nothing else but inquiring into the native customs. The Rev. C. W. Abel is very well qualified to do this kind of work in the most satisfactory manner. You must not think that he confined himself to literally translating my questions. He put many others on his own account, and, what is most important, was never satisfied with an uncertain answer. Often he told me-"We must drop "this question now; the natives are puzzled; we had better "return to this subject by-and-by." Besides, he is never satisfied with his work and himself. Therefore we sometimes spent fully an hour in getting an answer to one single question. This, of course, leads to a certain loss of time, but on the other hand gives a great weight to any information obtained in this way.

To all this you must add that, by the Rev. C. W. Abel's influence, we had a gang of old men who have been all bad men in

the past, and have indulged in war, cannibalism, &c., and all the evils peculiar to these natives. Now, although in a certain degree NEW GUINEA. ashamed of their past life, they have been willing to give us all the information that we asked. Every answer to our questions has been discussed amongst themselves before being put on paper. The Rev. C. W. Abel, who, as you know, speaks their language very well, was able to follow every discussion word for word, and could therefore know what weight to put on the answer. Now that I have given to the Rev. C. W. Abel the credit which is due to him, let me speak on the war customs of Logea.

Logea, one of the largest islands of the archipelago around Samarai, is inhabitated by natives who belong to a tribe called Duhuni, which is spread along the south-east coast of British New Guinea, between Mugula (Dufaure Island) and Doine at the east of Sariba, where one language is spoken with many

dialects.

Besides the intertribal wars, which occurred very often, the tribe had as its enemies the inhabitants of Milne Bay on one side and those of Mailu on the other, and also the natives dwelling in the interior. All the members of the tribe were supposed to assist each other in their troubles and fights against their enemies. The offence committed on a single individual or a village was considered to have been made on the whole of the tribe, and to be avenged on any member of the tribe to which the offender belonged. It is easily perceived that, under these circumstances, war was the main business of these natives. No sound sleep could be enjoyed, and some natives have told me that, before the arrival of the whites, they were wont to sleep sitting with their spears in their right hand, ready to defend themselves in case of an attack. Sham fights were held daily. In these fights villages were attacked unexpectedly, prisoners were taken, and a small payment was given to redeem the prisoner. It was really quite a miserable life of continual anxiety.

The whole of the causes of war may be given in two divisions:-1, Homicide; 2, the naming of the dead relations of others. It may be interesting to you, as a magistrate, to know how small a cause could lead to homicide. Let me, then, give a list of many different cases of which war is the result. In describing these I have, as you will notice, used the present tense for convenience, though, of course, I am describing what

took place in the past:-

1. In the case of adultery committed by the woman, the lover is invariably killed by the injured husband, even years after the offence has taken place.

2. It is the custom in this tribe to buy canoes, pigs, &c, and pay for them little by little. If, after one of such purchases, the buyer wilfully forgets to fulfil his duty towards the seller after the latter has reminded him of his debt, he is killed by him.

3. If a handsome young man, visiting a village, has the misfortune to conquer the hearts of too many women, and the girls manifest the desire that he should be their husband, and the

BRITISH 1894-5.

BRITISH New Guines. 1894-5. married women express the wish that he was theirs, the men of the village, jealous of him, and angry for the place that he has usurped in the women's affections, kill the handsome Adonis.

4. Suicide committed by a man after a great quarrel with his wife by going unarmed to an enemy's village, where he will

certainly be killed.

5. Sometimes, after war between two villages has waged with no result on either side, peace is made by the offended party, to enable them, after a little while, to kill some of their enemies when visiting them peacefully.

6. During the time of feasts the natives generally boast of their war feats. In doing this it may happen that a person, during the excitement of his talk, may offend another by despising his

actions, and the offended one will kill him in return.

7. Two young men, talking of their love exploits, may by boasting offend each other's vanity. A quarrel ensues, which becomes larger and larger in proportion to the assistance that each man receives from his relatives and friends, and death may occur.

8. Homicides committed to obtain another person's property. This happens without any provocation. For instance, a person sitting in the middle of a path is busy putting in order or cleaning his basket. He is seen by a new-comer, whose eyes are taken by some objects contained in the basket. This is quite sufficient to induce the new-comer to kill the unfortunate native.

9. If a young man finds that a girl whom he wishes to marry has a fancy for another man he kills him, thus succeeding in

removing the obstacle to his desires.

10. Homicide committed for the sake of starting war with a

certain village.

11. When an event occurs, such as a strong wind, continual rain, &c., which injures the crops, or prevents the people from going out fishing or hunting, or an epidemic, &c., they attribute this to the witchcraft performed by some sorcerers (male or female) of a certain tribe, and war is made accordingly.

12. An expedition made having a mere cannibal purpose from

no cause whatever.

13. Sometimes the nearest relation of a quarrelsome man who has impoverished him and his family, by obliging them to pay many a time the payment (poadi) which is due to the offended party, arranges with his enemies to kill the troublesome relative. After having done so he soon repents, and war is waged to avenge the murder.

14. The phrase "Tamamiu se mate O" (Your fathers are dead), said to a person is considered a direct challenge to fight, and has to be avenged by the death of the man who pronounced these

awful words, or that of some of his relatives or friends.

No custom was and is observed so strictly as the one which prevents the pronunciation of the names of dead persons in the presence of their relatives, or any allusion to their death. A case came under my notice which shows how strictly they observe this custom.

A native went on an errand to Port Moresby. Soon after this his brother died. The news, of course, reached the party to NEW GUINEA. which he belonged; but nobody dared to tell him anything. Months passed in that way. When he returned to his village he was met on the beach by all his relatives and friends crying. man knew at once that some death had occurred during his absence. He had only to observe which of his relatives was missing from the weeping crowd to know with certainty for which relative he had to mourn.

The natives of Logea have two words which we could translate war; one, "Iiara," for a war between themselves and a foreign village, and "Homari," to designate an intertribal war. In the former the enemy was generally eaten. In the latter the slain person was, on the contrary, buried; and if death did not occur and a person was wounded, peace was quickly established by giving presents to the wounded person, and the offender always went to nurse and assist the man during his illness. In order to give a clear account of a war expedition, I will now furnish an imaginary sketch of one that might have taken place in times past.

We will suppose now that a canoe of Logea people, when on a visit to a foreign village, was treacherously attacked, and one of the natives killed; the others who succeeded in escaping the massacre run away, and when they feel themselves safe, stow away all their ornaments, wash themselves from the cocoanut oil or paint which they may have used to ornament their body, and approach their village paddling very slowly. When close to it, they cease paddling, and start wailing in the peculiar monotonous singing tune of these natives, while the relatives of the murdered person, who may be on board the canoe, are lying on it as if they were asleep. The natives who are on the beach meet them with their canoes, asking: "Edoha?" (What has happened?) "Tauwa" (a man) is the reply to them, and if they do not understand who is the person killed, they name him to them, not by his name, but by a phrase as so-and-so's father, or so-and-so's brother.

After landing, the natives meet at the dead man's house, and start crying, and this they do until one of them, jumping on the platform, makes a speech to the audience on the necessity of avenging the death, being strong and brave, and going to meet the enemy, capture them, kill them, and so on. After him, other persons speak to the public in the same way, and war is decided

Meanwhile all the gardens and plantations of cocoanuts and betel-nuts, &c., belonging to the murdered person are destroyed, to allow the relatives and friends to forget quickly the departed person. It is not to be inferred by this that the natives do not feel keenly love, sorrow, &c. They are to be compared to children who, although feeling very much the grief, are ready to laugh one minute after crying. Besides, the memory of a person of their own tribe being murdered is painful to them; it reminds them of a defeat, and they try, therefore, to forget it as soon as they can.

BRITISH 1894-5.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1894-5. This is different as regards the nearest relative of the murdered man, who keeps the Toboa (o followed by a in Logean dialect has a very short sound, and could almost be substituted by a w. Toboa, for instance, has to be pronounced similarly to Tobwa, although a distinct o sound is heard before the a). The Toboa is a set of two or three baskets one inside the other, and in which the natives put their precious things.

As soon as the news of the murder spreads through the tribe, natives from all parts go to the village of the dead person, ready to take part in the war. On any new arrival all cry a little in honour of the dead, and fresh speeches are made, to keep up the enthusiasm and readiness to fight. When they think they are sufficiently numerous, and the Tanuwa gana has collected enough

food, a feast called "Hiwoga" is held.

Tanuwa'gana means, to use a slang word, "boss," and, in this case, is the nearest relation of the murdered man. The "boss" of the feast, Hiwoga, as we shall soon see, will pay the successful warriors and so on. The word "Tanuwa'gana" has a very wide meaning; but in this letter I will use it only to denote the nearest relation of the murdered man, who has a large part to

play in all which relates to war.

During the feast, Hiwoga, the war cances lie in a row on the beach, and the Tanuwa'gana distributes the food to each cance. These are then put into the water. In each cance one man having, a branch of babaga (a kind of croton), walks up and down the cance shaking the babaga, which he afterwards throws on the beach for the purpose of frightening the spirits away, but may at the time dwell in the cance. He then repeats the operation, but on this occasion sticks the branch of babaga at one end of the cance to make it light to paddle.

When all the canoes are launched, one native rises and pronounces the following prayer to the man living in the moon called

Eaboahine:

1st Verse.

Eaboahine e ku gebe gauma metau Poroporohe gu ku tauiei.

2nd Verse.

Eaboahine e ku tauiegu eauna ku Firiegu pirika be pitagu be Piriunu'unuagu be.

After each verse the warriors who sit in the canoes make a terrible noise. Some beat the canoes with sticks, others the drums

with their hands, others blow the conch-shell (boagigi).

The natives have not been able to tell me where Eaboahine comes from, and how it is that he lives in the moon. They have stopped all my enquiries by saying to me, pointing to the moon: "We have never been there; but don't you see his two eyes, his "nose, and his mouth?"

When the invocation to Eaboahine is finished, they ask the women who are on the beach if they have heard any noise. If the answer is in the affirmative they go to the war delighted with the certainty of vanquishing their enemies. If the women say that they did not hear anything, they start half-heartedly and are sure to come back a short time afterwards and give up the idea of the expedition. It is clear from this that women can stop a war expedition whenever they like.

Much care is taken during the voyage not to be seen by the enemy. Should the expedition be obliged to camp during the night, they land one canoe after the other without pronouncing a

single word and no fire is lit.

When close to the village, some of the bravest men (they are called Tau Tahutahuloro) go to spy on the enemy and report.

Early in the morning, much before the sun has risen, two warriors (called Boe) lead the way. Very cautiously they advance whilst all the other men stand still. After a few hundred yards, one of the Boe remains where he is; the other rushes back to the crowd of warriors to let them know that they may advance. When they meet the other Boe they stop to let the two Boe go first as previously. If the Boe who stays on guard sees an enemy coming towards him, he rushes back to his companions, who in this case hide themselves in the bush, wait till the solitary enemy is close to them, and all at once attack and capture or kill him.

During the times that the warriers are thus advancing, the canoes, guided by the children and old men who (although accompanying the expedition, are not fit to fight) follow them, and

stop in front of the village, to cut off the retreat by sea.

When the warriors are close to the village, they divide into three or four parties, surround the village, attack it by surprise if they can, capture and kill as many people as they are able, steal anything on which they can lay their hands (dogs, pigs, native ornaments, &c.), damage the plantations and gardens, burn the village, and so on, all this being accompanied by the most infernal

yelling and shouting.

This happens, of course, when the attacking party completely routs its opponents. But this seldom occurs. It has to be borne in mind that war is made to avenge one person's death. Therefore, when the assailants succeed in capturing or killing one person they do not care to run the risk of losing any of their men, and gladly listen to the voice of any one of them who says, "Let us go back and eat him" and return to their canoes carrying with them the slain or captured person, where, whilst dancing, yelling, beating canoes and drums, blowing the conch-shell, they sing the following song:—

1st Verse.

Didiara botanina se doudou lele se Lelei O.

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1894-5.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1894-5.

2nd Verse.

Dituna eanuaia se ulea ku bunaia Besa inodunodua kabo se doudou Lele.

In the midst of this terrible noise the canoes are paddling slowly away, enjoying the sight of the natives on the beach wailing for their losses.

The prisoners' hands are pierced right through; a string is passed through these holes, and the hands tied together at the back. The arms and legs are also tied at two or three different places, thus preventing the prisoner from running away. During all the voyage back the prisoner is laughed at; he is taunted with the prospect of torture and death, and reminded that his flesh will be

When the successful war party is close to the village from whence it started, the Tanuwa'gana goes ashore and brings some small gifts to the persons who have captured or killed or assisted in

capturing or killing, the enemy.

The canoes stopping in a row in the shallow water, the persons who have captured or killed an enemy stand up at the bows of the canoes, having the captured or killed enemy at their feet; one spear on the right hand and a few more spears in the left, whilst every body sings the following song, interrupting every verse with beating their drums and canoes, blowing the conch-shell, and so on:-

1st Verse.

Kamutekamute ia sawa be goala ea soki.

2nd Verse.

Ea guri kawa moamoadu ea besa eoaeoari.

When the corpses or prisoners are thrown into the water, where they are picked up by the people waiting on the beach, who, without touching them with their hands, stick spears into their bodies and carry them ashore, taking great care not to kill the

prisoners.

Each of the prisoners or corpses is then put on a mat (Dem). A rope, secured to a tree, is passed round the neck to cause the prisoner or corpse to sit with the head erect. Two persons each take one hand, and, keeping it down, prevent any movement from the prisoner. The nearest female relation to the man who had to be avenged steps forward, having a native fork (a mere sharp-pointed stick) in her right hand. First of all she undresses herself of all the mourning ornaments that she has, and puts them on the prisoner. He has to pay with his life for the loss of her murdered relative; it is right, then, that he should wear the mourning ornaments. When close to the prisoner or corpse the woman says, "Is it with this right eye that you have seen my

" son [or brother, &c.] captured? Is it with this right eye that " you saw him cut to pieces, cooked and eaten? Well, this is the NEW GUINEA. " payment (maisana) for it," and with the native fork she pierces the right eye of the prisoner. All the women who were related to the murdered Logea man follow one after the other and torture the prisoner or mutilate the corpse, whilst the natives around enjoy the scene.

BRITISH 1894-5.

After this the prisoner or corpse is wrapped up with dry cocoanut leaves and hoisted up about a fathom from the ground, and then a firestick is applied to the leaves which warp up the feet, and the body is burnt. When the rope by which the body is hung is burnt and the body falls on the ground the wildest and most savage scene takes place. The natives rush with knives in their hands, each of them cutting a piece off the body-which may be still alive—in the midst of diabolical noise and yells of rejoicing.

All the prisoners and corpses brought after a war belong to the Tanuwa'gana, who has to pay for them. For every person captured or killed he has to pay three very large payments; one for the skull, one for the jaw, and a third for the neck. No man in the island is rich enough to pay with his own goods one of these three payments. He has to be assisted by all his relatives, and the payments, although handed over to the man who first threw the spear at and wounded the enemy, or put his hand on him to capture him, are practically divided amongst all the people who have assisted this man in his work. Even those who threw the body into the sea when in front of the village get their share of it. The Tanuwa'gana always keeps the first vertebræ, with which he makes an armlet, the jaw, for the same purpose, and the skull, which he hangs in the house, or puts on a post fixed to his canoe, as a trophy.

The Tanuwa'gana being the owner of the prisoners, he may, if he chooses, save their lives. In such case the prisoner becomes his nearest relation (father, or mother, or child, or brother, or sister, considering sex and age), and is treated accordingly. Tanuwa'gana never marries a female prisoner, in the same way that he cannot marry his mother, sister, or daughter. This mild and kind manner of treating their prisoners will, no doubt, surprise you, as it has astonished me, especially if you compare it with their cruel manner of putting the prisoners to death. The natives explain this apparent contradiction very satisfactorily. have," they say, "already taken our revenge on somebody else; our minds are satisfied; we have pity for the poor prisoner, so that we treat him well."

Every man going to fight has to submit himself to a certain diet, with the double purpose of acquiring strength and of losing all the fat that he may have, so as to enable him to jump easily here and there to avoid the spears thrown at him. Therefore-

(1.) He preserves chastity.

(2.) He drinks a quantity of salt water as an aperient.

British New Guinea. 1894-5. (3.) He eats no animal food, and of vegetables he takes only taro (odo), yam (apoe), cocoanuts (niu), and sago (rabia). His food may be boiled or roasted, but has to be mixed with ginger (saiara), which they believe will give strength. They also take great care not to eat enough to satisfy their appetite. They really starve themselves to become thin and agile. They are so particular on this point that should any of them be stout when going to fight, his companions will not allow him to land.

(4.) He burns the plant Gabusihesihehe, sitting over the fire while doing so, believing that this will make him light and agile. Although in the feast Hiwoga all sorts of food are put in the war canoes, the warriors are careful not to touch any which is

tabooed to them. Those who accompany the war expedition and

do not fight may, of course, eat anything.

After the fight this taboo is broken. Those who have captured or killed, or assisted in capturing or in killing, some enemies nave no further need to become thin and strong, but they have to avoid the odour of the blood (osinana) of the captured or slain, which odour will give them a disease called osinana that will cause them to die. They accordingly shut themselves up for about a week in their houses, where food cooked in special pots, is brought to them. They may eat vegetable food only, and must avoid any intercourse with their wives and friends, so as not to smell the blood.

When the natives think that the smell of the blood has entirely disappeared, the warriors thus shut up in their houses give to the Tanuwa'gana a feast called Kepokepo, in which they take no part, although they witness it from a distance, adorned with all their best ornaments. The following day the Tanuwa'gana returns the compliment with a feast called Sisimoagodu (sisimoa=native fork, godu=to break) in which he, when dividing the food, after putting some of it in a dish for the warriors, breaks the native fork as a sign that they (the warriors) can at last touch the food with their hands, which they could not do previously. This is the end of the privations of the warriors.

A long time after this (it may be two or three years), when the Tanuwa'gana has succeeded in gathering the payments for those who have been captured or killed, he gives a last feast, called Moahari, in which the payments are given and divided as above

described.

The weapons, which are generally kept in a house called bosim, are the spear (wamari), the shield (iesi), the club (kelepa), stones (weku) which are often thrown from a sling (ropeu), and a special tomahawk called baewatena, used for cutting the enemies' heads off, should they have no time or means to carry the whole body away.

The custom, so common amongst Papuans, of marking in some way the spear which has killed or wounded an enemy, or the knife with which heads of enemies have been cut off, and so on, does not

prevail here.

It is very strange that at Logea they have no ornaments (as the beak of the hornbill-a bunch of cockatoo feathers, amongst New Guinea. Motuans) which the warrior who has killed or assisted in killing an enemy wears at the dances, and which no other person may

BRITISH 1894-5.

Although now all the villages of Logea are on the beach, and with no fortifications, the natives tell me that in ancient times the villages were not to be found on the coast, and that they were all surrounded by a pallisade (tona), and had a tree-house (siwasiwa), where a good quantity of spears and stones were kept. Close to each village, and in some paths leading to it, trap-holes (purubekubeku) were made, and pointed sticks (sio) were hidden to wound the enemies' feet.

It may be interesting to you to know how these natives manage to make peace after a war.

When the losses on both sides were equal, peace followed as a

natural consequence.

If the Logeans could not have their revenge, although the war was lasting a long time, treachery was resorted to. They would beg another tribe, at that time on good terms with their enemies, to assist them, and these friends would let them know when one of their enemies was on a visit to them, thus enabling the Logeans to fall on him and capture or kill him, or they themselves would capture the man and hand him over to the Logeans. By doing this, they secure for themselves the large payment that the Tanuwa'gana has to give.

The readiness of any native to take part in a war, or to assist by treachery one of his friends in injuring another friend, must not be a surprise to you. The motive of this is the prospect of the large payment which is due to any person who has assisted the nearest relation of a dead person to have his revenge. know from a distinct confession made to me by the natives.

Should one party be tired of war, word is sent by some common friends to the other party, and then the latter appoint a day for settling their disputes; and at the appointed time, all armed and ready to fight, they go with their war canoes close to the enemy's village, and, stopping a few yards from the beach, one of them stands up and tells the people who are gathered there that they have come to make peace or to wage war, as the others may chose. The Chief of the people on the beach answers that it is quite true that they are ready to make peace, and will be delighted to do so. Then one of the warriors who has killed or captured one of the other party shouts, "I have killed a manso-and-so's brother; where is his nearest relative?" and, saying this, he hands over to the nearest relation a very big gift (which has its special name—Poadi). And so does everyone who made the enemy suffer a loss. As soon as these gifts are interchanged, the people ashore, in the midst of a tremendous noise, break their spears; and the same is done by the other party, who then comes ashore, where a feast called Enima Kaikai is held, in which food is interchanged.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1894-5.

It is not infrequently the case that the party begging for peace breaks its spears even before the arrival of its enemies. In every

such case the same performances take place.

With the Enima Kaikai the war ends; so will my letter. Do not think that I have exhausted the subject; far from it. It is for this reason that I wrote these customs as an epistle, which will convey the idea that it is not a complete work. To give you an instance of the necessity for a far longer statement to complete the subject, I will only say that the phrase "the nearest relation," which very often occurs in my letter, could lead me to speak of the great influence of the women in all matters concerning native life, and how it is that many Logeans are not considered true Logeans by the natives, although their parents, grandparents, great grandparents, and even great great grandparents were Logean natives. I also say, in a very general way and incidentally that the natives have some ornaments which they use in war. No mention is made of what these ornaments are, how they are worn, and of what materials and how they are made. Nor do I mention the part that the sorcerer and witch have in a war expedition. The bosim that I mention above also leads me to mention that it is in it that the men assemble to indulge in filthy talk, and a very interesting comparison could be made between the morals of these natives and those which are to be found in the Central Division, showing how these natives are in every way superior to the others.

Besides, you must not expect from me any well prepared work. I am here to study the natives, not to write on their customs. I will do so by-and-by when at home, where I will have all the time to arrange my work, consult books, and so on. Accept, then, this letter as a mere translation of my hurried notes and as a sign

of friendship from

To the Hon. M. H. Moreton, LAMBERTO LORIA.
Resident Magistrate of the Eastern Division,
Samarai.

APPENDIX T.

NOTES ON TOTEMISM, &c., among the WESTERN TRIBES, by Mr. B. A. Hely, Resident Magistrate for the Western Division.

Amongst the coast tribes of this district the term for "tabu" is "sabi." I propose under the above heading to give some information concerning the superstitions, charms, &c., of the people, which may be of interest to readers.

The principal "sabi" is that connected with the names of relatives by marriage (Emapura). A man may not mention the name of his wife's father, mother, elder sister, or elder brother, nor of any male or female relative of her father or mother, so long as

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

1894-5,

such relative is a member of the same tribe. The names of his wife's younger brothers or sisters are not "sabi" to him.

The same law applies to a woman in connection with her

husband's relatives.

As a general rule this "sabi" does not extend outside the tribal boundaries. That is, when a woman or man marries out of her or his tribe the "sabi" is not generally applied. Also when members of one tribe who are "Emapura" to each other are away from their own territory the "sabi" need not necessarily be observed.

Any relatives of a man or woman may by protest exempt themselves from the "Emapura" at the time of the marriage if there has been any quarrel between them and one of the parties to

the marriage.

When "Emapura" has been accepted, a breach of the "sabi" has to be paid for, the offender paying a fine to the person offended. If the "sabi" is not mended by payment, neither the offender nor the person offended may, in the case of males, enter the "man-house" until the breach has been repaired. The offended party could of old recover his status by taking a head.

No "sabi" (or copyright) is applied to songs, dances, or tales.

They are common property.

Cocoanut and sago trees are "sabied" by marks. Each individual in a tribe has separate marks. Cocoanut trees are generally "sabied" to prevent the fruit being taken by the owner or others, so that a number of dry nuts may accumulate. The "sabi" is also applied to prevent theft. In the same way sago trees are "sabied" to allow of their coming to full maturity. The trees are not "sabied" for deaths; but, when a person dies, one cocoanut tree from which he or she has in life used the fruit is cut down by the relatives. This custom has ceased where the law against cutting down cocoanut trees has been applied.

Sago trees are not cut down when deaths occur.

No garden produce is "sabi," not even against theft. When a garden has been robbed, the owner places a skewer of bamboo in the track near to the garden. The skewer is fixed in the following fashion:—A hole nearly as deep as the length of the skewer is dug, then half the shell of a cocoanut is placed in it as a rest for the skewer, to prevent it sinking when trodden upon. The stake is then placed in position with the point projecting about an inch above ground; the point is then covered lightly with loose soil and leaves. If the offender returns to renew his depredations he probably treads on the skewer, which causes lameness, thus revealing his identity.

Roads and tracks are "sabied" by placing a dried cocoanut on a stake which is stuck in the ground on the track. This "sabi" is strictly observed. People are afraid of meeting with accident

or death if they take a "sabied" road.

Drinking water or approaches to it are never "sabied," water being an absolute necessary of life, and the common property of BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1894-5. all people wheresoever situated. Firewood is never "sabied," for the same reason.

Three articles only of animal food may have the "sabi" applied to them—viz., alligator, cassowary, and dog. The "sabi" in these cases is generally inherited, probably arising from some accident, illness, or other misfortune met with at some time by ancestors of the people to whom the foods are now "sabi." The "sabi" is generally strictly observed, but is subject to alterations. For instance, the father of Kasavi and man could not eat either cassowary or alligator. The sons divided the "sabi," cassowary being forbidden food to man, and alligator to Kasavi. Duani, chief of Mawatta, is forbidden to eat dog. The latter animal, although recognised as an article of food, is not much used as such by the coast people, owing to its value for hunting purposes.

Cocoanut water is "sabi" to women suckling children. They

may, however, eat the pulp.

All hot food is "sabi" to pregnant women.

Gumada (yangona or kava) is "sabi" to boys below the age of

puberty.

Green ginger is eaten by men before fighting to make them strong—a literal example of the old saying, "Ginger for pluck." It is also given to dogs to make them strong for the chase. The owner chews the root and spits the juice into the dog's mouth.

Brothers and "pana" (intimate friends) of a man will, on his death "sabi" themselves against either cocoanuts or bananas—whichever of the two he last asked for or used during life. The length of time this "sabi" lasts is governed by the seasons. Should the death occur in the south-east season the "sabi" lasts until the next north-west, and vice versa. This "sabi" is imperative, but does not apply to any other articles of food than the two named.

People may privately "sabi" anything to show grief. Duani, chief of Mawatta, "sabied" dugong fishing 10 years ago, on the

death of a great friend, and has never engaged in it since.

The only charm against accident appears to be in the case of snakes. A man killing a snake burns it, and smears his legs with the ashes when going into the bush. No snake will then bite him for a period of from four to six days. After that time the

smearing has to be renewed.

Charm to aid Dugong and Turtle Spearing.—A small beetle (Guguwariu), which frequents cocoanut-trees, is placed inside the hole in the end of the "wap" (spear haft), into which the "kiwuro" (spear head) is inserted. This is supposed to cause the "kiwuro" to stick fast in the dugong or turtle when speared, in the same way as the "guguwariu" sticks fast to a man's skin when it bites him. The "wap" and "amu" (rope of vines) are also anointed with "gum ada" before the fishing starts. This makes them strong.

The patches of dugong food on the reefs are individually owned, and descend from father to son. No man can fish on another

man's patch without permission. Where new patches form on the reefs they are the property of the discoverers. The four dugong fishing tribes here—Parama, Gurai, Kadawah, and Ture Ture—each have separate localities in which they fish, and are not supposed to poach on each other's ground. I have reason to know that this law is well observed, although, like others, it is subject to breaches.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1894-5.

Dead persons' relatives place food on their graves for one month after death. Fires are made alongside the graves for four days after burial, while the funeral feasts last. In some places (Kiwai, for instance) the fires are continued every night so long as the deceased is remembered or grief lasts.

Iwaiaberi, a mythical personage, very tall, of the colour of ashes, with tusks like a pig, and white hair who steals young children. He has always to be carefully guarded against at births,

as the first cry of a newborn child attracts him,

One of these myths inhabits the yam plantation at Daru station, and is said to have been seen several times by members of the constabulary, when there have been small children about the station. The people have a firm belief in it, although it was probably originally a sort of "bogie man" to frighten children

into good behaviour.

"Buhere buhere" (a species of female devil) is much feared. They inhabit large trees as a rule, and are very dangerous. Trees supposed to be inhabited by them are treated with much respect, and never cut down. The large fig-tree at the back of the station is supposed to contain a colony of these dangerous females. Some little time ago I considered one of the branches dangerous, and caused it to be cut off. Only two men, Uria and Savi, would touch it. The people about told them that something would surely happen. As they have as yet come to no harm, the people say that the "buhere buhere" cannot harm the Government or its employees. They do not believe the less in the power of the "buhere buhere" to harm themselves if offended.

Another species of female devil (wauwa) inhabits certain places in the district, and has various powers and functions. That which inhabits Mabudauan Hill records the death of any member of the Kadawa or Ture Ture tribes by clapping two stones together There is also a wauwa at Daru. She had two stones with which she worked mischief until I broke them up two years ago. Since then the "wauwa," according to the natives, has gone to another part of the island. In the opinion of the natives the destruction of

the stones has been beneficial to the health of the island,

Two years ago, because of the evil reputation Daru possessed—illnesses, male and female devils, &c.—the removal of the station from Mabudauan to Daru was strenuously objected to by the Mawatta people, who have never much frequented the latter place, and were very afraid to live there for any length of time, as they said they invariably contracted illness. Any epidemic of colds, &c., was always believed to come from Daru. There was only one Mawatta man in Government employ at the time. This people

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1894-5.

went so far as to suggest that he should leave the service and not go to Daru, or he would die. He, however, was not very afraid, and took his wife and child to Daru also. He has never been ill nor has the woman or child while on Daru, but every time the latter goes to Mawatta he appears to lose his health, and is hurried back by his mother to Daru. So far from being afraid to serve on Daru now, all hands recognise the station to be the healthiest place in the district. It was always my opinion that Daru would be fairly healthy, owing to it being higher ground than any other locality in the district, and fortunately it proved so to be in spite of the superstitions of the people. Only once—in May 1894—has there been any serious illness on the station (owing to an abnormal rainfall). From April, 1893, to the following year there was no sickness, and the station acquired a name for healthiness. however, much sickness occurred during the first six months or so of the settlement, and the predictions of the people been verified, we would probably have had to recruit the police from other districts or shifted the station.

Masingaramu Folk-lore, &c.—The alligator (sible) is the deity of the Masingaramu people. Alligators may be killed but not eaten The story goes that many years ago, when the tribe were located at Sareewe, a man named Usai was walking near the crossing-place on Pudumatura Creek, on the boundary between Masingara and Badu. Hearing singing and talking in the creek, he went closer and saw an alligator playing with two young alligators, and singing and talking to them in the Masingaramu language. He went back to Sareewe and told of what he had seen. He said that no doubt this alligator was a god, and that it would be advisable to secure him and keep him as the god of the tribe. Next morning all the people went to the place, and on seeing the alligator, asked him to become their god, and they would take him to Sareewe and provide him with food. The alligator, however, declined the honour, and disappeared in the water. then suggested that they should catch the alligator which they did, but they only succeeded in securing one of the young ones which was held under the forearm of the big one. The alligator's name was Nugu, and the young one Ulbe. They were taken to Sareewe and placed in a house.

After some time children who were left in the village while their parents were in the gardens were occasionally missing. was then discovered that Nugu had been eating them. At a council of the villagers it was decided to supply Nugu with pigs on condition that he did not touch the children. Nugu agreed to this, and thereafter the children could be left with him in safety. Tradition is silent as to the end of Nugu and Ulbe, but, in a small house in which the young boys sleep and play at Masingara, there are two effigies of them which are rather works of art. The figure of Nugu is about 8 feet long, that of Ulbe about 4 feet. They are used at the large hunting dances, being placed in the middle of the circle of dancers and refreshed with libations

of sie (the Yangona) and greased with pig's fat.

The memory of Nugu is also perpetuated in the figure of a man which is kept in the Chief's house and is the great totem of the tribe.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1894-5.

Relationship by marriage, termed "emapura" at Mawatta, is called "gite" at Masingara. The "tabu" is "mitse." Exactly the same law applies in the latter tribe as in the former in connection with it, except that a breach of the mitse has to be healed by the offender supplying food and sie (gumada) to the offended person for one whole day.

B. A. HELY.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 155.

CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893 see No. 126 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty, February 1896.



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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.		Colo	ny.				Year.
121	Straits Settlements .						1893
122	Labuan -			-	-		99
123	Basutoland -		-	-	- 7	-	1893-94
124	St. Lucia -			-	-	-	1893
125	St. Helena -		-	-		-	"
126	Ceylon -		-		•	-	"
127	Fiji			-	1 . 60	-	,,
128	Grenada -		-		-		99
129	Sierra Leone -		-		- 10	-	,,
130	British Bechuanalar	nd	-	-			1893-4
131	British New Guines	3.	-	-	-	-	1892-3&
							1893-4
132	Lagos		-		-		1893
133	British Guiana		-			-	1893-94
134	Jamaica -		-	-	-	-	"
135	Newfoundland .		- 12	-		-	1893
136	Gold Coast .		-	-	- 14	-	,,
137	Zululand		-	-	-	-	1894
138	Bermuda -		-	-	•		. ,,
139	Bahamas -				-	-	99
140	Barbados -					-	"
141	Turks and Caicos Is	slands	-				"
142	Malta		-	•	-	-	"
143	Gambia -		-		-	-	,,
144	Windward Islands -		-	-		•	99
145	Trinidad and Tobag		-			-	"
146	Gibraltar -		-	-		-	"
147	Falkland Islands .		-		-	-	"
148	Hong Kong .		-	•		-	"
149	Straits Settlements .		-	-	-	-	29
150	Lagos		-		1.5	-	"
151	Seychelles -		-	-	-	-	
152	Basutoland -		-	-	-		1894-5
153	Fiji - ·	C. C. C.	-	-		-	1894
154	St. Helena -		-	-		-	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colon	У	Subject.
1 2 3 4	Gold Coast Zululand - Sierra Leone Canada -		Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany. Emigration.

No. 155.

CEYLON.

CEYLON. 1894.

[For Report for 1893 see No. 126.]

Sir A. E. HAVELOCK to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Queen's House, Colombo, Ceylon, October 10, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1894.

I have, &c. A. E. HAVELOCK.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF CEYLON FOR THE YEAR 1894.

The Colony continued to make satisfactory progress during the year 1894. The Revenue was considerably the largest on record, though its purchasing capacity was not so great as that of 1877, owing to the fall in the value of the rupee.

The most noteworthy incident of the year was the laying the foundation stone of the first of the two breakwaters which are to make Colombo an enclosed harbour, protected on all sides against the monsoon winds, and largely increasing the space available for berthing both men-of-war and merchantmen.

It is confidently anticipated that this great work will give to Ceylon one of the finest, if not actually the finest artificial harbour in the world, and that the expansion of trade with the East and with Australasia will cause it to prove ultimately a financial success. In view of the geographical position of Colombo, it must always prove a centre to which trade will gravitate, and if to the natural advantages which it thus enjoys special facilities are added for protection and accommodation of shipping, a great increase in the volume of business transacted at this Port appears to be a necessary result.

o 89240. Wt. 20348.

SIR,

CEYLON. 1894.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The Revenue of the Colony for the year 1894 amounted to Rs.19,485,310 and the Expenditure to Rs.20,342,899.

The figures for the two previous years were—

					Revenue.	Expenditure.
					Rs.	Rs.
1892	-	-	-	-	18,509,187	17,762,466
1893		-	-	4-	18,051,950	18,276,107

Revenue.

2. As already noted, the Revenue was considerably larger than in any previous year.

Customs and Railways were responsible for the largest increases,

but all heads of Revenue, save one, show an increase.

The decrease in Internal Revenue is due to the falling off in the Land Revenue.

3. The increases and decreases under the various sub-heads are fully explained in the Blue Book.

Expenditure.

4. The increase in Expenditure as compared with 1893 was some two and three-quarter million of rupees, mainly due to a continued extension of the Railway system, and to increased expenditure on Public Works.

5. The increased charges on account of the Public Debt amount to nearly Rs.700,000, owing to the fall in exchange and issue of

Inscribed Stock.

There were also considerable increases under the heads Pensions, Exchange, and Military Expenditure, all due to the fall in value of the rupee.

Hospitals and Dispensaries show a considerable increase.

The cost of Administration generally exhibits a decrease, and in the Provincial Administration alone there was a decrease of nearly Rs.130,000, the Government being fully alive to the necessity for economy and retrenchment where possible.

PUBLIC DEBT.

6. The sterling debt of the Colony amounted on 31st December, 1894, to 3,563,976l., as against 2,585,069l. on 31st December, 1893. 1,000,000l. was raised in 1894 for the new Breakwaters and other Public Works, the expenditure on which cannot be reproductive for some years.

7. The silver debt of the Colony was Rs.3,312,923, as against

Rs.2,323,371 on 31st December, 1893.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

CEYLON. 1894.

8 The total value of the trade of the Colony for 1894 was Rs.157,836,662, as against Rs.146,536,029 in 1893:—

					1893.	1894.
Imports	2012012		r	-	Rs. 72,340,662	Rs. 78,113,072
Exports		14-0.5	-		74,195,367	79,723,590
	Total		- 1	-	146,536,029	157,836,662

9. The total Customs Revenue for 1894 was Rs.4,931,967, as against Rs.4,498,912 in 1893.

10. The principal Imports and Exports compared with those of 1893 are as follows:—

Imports.

					1893.	1894.
Rice -				bushels.	7,447,376	7,556,505
Cotton Goods		1000	-	Rs.	4,882,910	5,236,840
Malt Liquor, W	ines. &c		-	,,	1,392,555	1,376,783
Metals and Met	alware	-	-	,,	1,972,629	1,949,537
Coal and Coke	-	-	-	tons	291,901	325,497
Specie -	200	100	-	Rs.	6,363,369	9,411,949
Machinery	-	-	-	,,	679,074	773,614

Exports.

	-				1893.	1894.
					55 409	21.007
Coffee -	-		-	cwt.	55,423	31,987
Cinchona	-	-	-	lbs.	3,440,715	2,529,261
Tea -	-	-	-	"	82,269,353	85,376,322
Cacao -	-	-	-	cwt.	29,776	22,792
Cardamoms		-		lbs.	411,834	316,863
Cocoanut Produ	cts:-					
Coir Stuffs	_	138-85		cwt.	159,959	175,844
Cocoanut Oil		_	-	"	388,606	448,573
Copperah				"	87,220	45,441
Poonac		111	-	"	169,638	189,959
Arrack	100		-	gls.	94,672	97,774
Cinnamon				lbs.	2,741,082	2,784,754
Citronella Oil				ozs.	12,470,192	15,724,116
				cwt.	332,169	335,168
Plumbago				CW C.		
Tobacco -		-	501 Tel.	,,	39,942	54,850

11. The decrease in imports of intoxicants, which was one of the features of last year's report, continues. The explanation in 1893 was that the duty on spirits had been considerably increased, CEYLON. 1894. and large stocks had in consequence been laid in in the previous year. This explanation does not account for the decrease in 1894 as compared with 1893. It is due to the increased use of spirits, whilst there is a considerable decrease in the imports of wines and malt liquors.

The increase in the import of specie is due to large importations from India, the excess over 1893 from that country being over Rs.4,000,000. It is not easy to account for this, as the imports

from British India enormously exceed our exports thither.

12. There has been a steady increase in the import of rice for the last three years. The abolition of the Paddy Tax has certainly not acted as a protective duty which would check imports, as was predicted in some quarters.

As regards exports, tea, cinnamon, plumbago, tobacco, and cocoanut products show an increase. The total value of the produce of the cocoanut-palm exported in 1894 was Rs.11,017,549,

as against Rs.10,403,235 in 1893.

13. The export of coffee showed a considerable decrease, and it is to be hoped that we have touched bottom as regards this staple product.

14. There has been during the last three years a steady increase of exports to the mother-country, whilst to British Colonies and

Foreign Countries there has been a decrease.

In 1892 the total value of goods exported to the United Kingdom was Rs.39,960,830, and to the Colonies and Foreign Countries it exceeded Rs.22,000,000, In 1894 the export to the mother-country had increased to Rs.53,558,073, whilst to other countries it had fallen to a little over Rs.18,000,000.

Shipping.

15. These returns continue to show an increase, the figures being as follows:—

		1	893.		1894.
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered -	-	3,675	3,102,811	3,851	3,210,217
Cleared -	-	3631	3,049,582	3,823	3,155,646
Total		7,306	6,152,393	7,674	6,365,853

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

16 The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs.878,443, as against Rs.750,525 in 1893, but of this sum only Rs.102,363 was spent out of Revenue on account of the South-Wet Breakwater, the remainder being expended from the HarbourLoan on account of Harbour Extension, Land Acquisition, and Dredging

The total expenditure on the Harbour to December 31, 1894, was Rs.10,637,076.

CEYLON. 1894.

17. The following is the statement of the revenue and expenditure on account of the Harbour for 1894:-

REVENUE.		Expenditure.
	Rs. c. 706,523 17	Principal repaid to Public Works Loan Commissioners - 131,749 20
Surplus Overtime Fees transferred to Harbour Fund -	5,306 10	Interest paid to do 109,559 38
Pilotage, &c	51,105 0	Interest on Debentures, &c 347,654 78
Rent of Reclamation Ground -	11,923 90	Sinking Fund on Debentures, &c 82,511 76
Single Warehouse Rent Rent of Wharf and Warehouse Company's Warehouses	160,680 80 2,520 0	Interest, &c., on Debentures under Ordinances Nos. 7 of 1892 and 17 of 1893 - 142,207 37
Rent of Boat Company's Offices, &c., due to Harbour Fund	3,300 12	Charges incidental to management, lighting, &c., of the Port of Colombo - 207,322 66
Sundries	1,321 76	
Total - Rs	. 942,680 85	Total - Rs. 1,021,005 1

18. The usual series of observations taken after the south-west monsoon showed that no settlement had taken place in the structure of the Breakwater.

A new dredger in place of the Merak, which has been condemned, has been ordered.

19. Preliminary operations in connection with the new Breakwaters are being vigorously pushed, and considerable progress has been made with the work of reclamation along the foreshore.

PUBLIC WORKS.

20. The total expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1893 amounted to Rs.3,822,446, classified as follows:-

		Rs.
Establishment	-	391,077
Recurrent Expenditure.		
Departmental and miscellaneous charges	-	195,742
Upkeep of roads, bridges, canals,	and	
irrigation works		1,322,487
epairs to buildings		198,397
Extraordinary Expenditure		
New works and buildings		434,710
Alterations and additions to buildings	-	112,236
New roads and improvement of roads	and	
canals		580,278
New bridges	-	311,977
New irrigation works	-	302,210
Lands acquired	-	9,375

CEYLON. 1894. 21. 3,407.91 miles of roads and the public buildings and other

works were maintained in satisfactory order.

22. The new General Post Office and the Victoria Bridge over the Kelani, which is to take the place of the old bridge of boats, made great progress during the year, and have since been completed. These two works are amongst the most important that have been undertaken by the Public Works Department.

The charge of the Colombo Waterworks was transferred to the Public Works Department. A small saving in salaries was secured thereby. The average daily consumption of water in Colombo was about 2,000,000 gallons, whilst the delivery of the main pipes

is a little under 2½ million gallons daily.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

23. The expenditure of the Department amounted to Rs.479,441, as compared with Rs.413,118 in 1893.

24. The total revenue from Land Sales was Rs.358,805, as

compared with Rs.292,528 in 1893.

25. The area of land alienated by the Crown in 1894 was 13,084 acres, as against 12,158 acres in 1893. Of these, 5,495 acres were sold to Europeans at an average rate of Rs.24.99 per acre, a decrease of Rs.3.20 as compared with 1893. 9,965 acres were sold to natives at an average rate of Rs.25.86 per acre. It is noticeable that the rate per acre was higher in lands purchased by natives than by Europeans, a very unusual occurrence.

26. The work of the Department included Irrigation, Forest,

Harbour, Railway, Archæological, and other surveys.

The demand for ferro-gallic prints carried on in the Head Office increased by 50 per cent., and amongst other work done by the Department may be mentioned photo-lithography, for the Archæological Commissioner's reports on the ruins at Anurádhapura.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

27. The receipts amounted to Rs.384,536, against Rs.361,051 in 1893. The expenditure was Rs.456,568, against Rs.404,756 in 1893.

28. This deficit is, however, greatly reduced, if the increased stocks in the depôts and value of free grants is taken into account.

There was a large deficit in the Western Province, which has been the subject of investigation, but a considerable portion of the expenditure of the Department must be looked upon as capital, rather than current, expenditure, and as merely indirectly remunerative.

The reservation and settlement of forests, improvement fellings, experimental plantations, demarcation and survey work, roads constructed in connection with forest operations, and the protection of existing forests, bring in little or no direct revenue, but form the most important portion of the work of the Forest Department.

The Department supplied firewood and sleepers to the Government Railway and Harbour Extension Works, telegraph posts to the Postal Department, and timber to the Public Works Department.

CEYLON. 1894.

9

Satinwood and ebony in the log were the principal timbers sold to dealers for exportation, but there was also a considerable sale of firewood to private purchasers.

RAILWAYS.

29. The receipts amounted to Rs.5,555,058, as compared with Rs.4,985,848 in 1893, showing an increase of over 11 per cent.

The expenditure, including new works and additional rolling stock, was Rs.4,145,547, or 74 per cent. of the receipts, as against 57 per cent. in 1893, but the increase was almost entirely due to new works, &c., which accounted for over 21 per cent. of the whole expenditure. The vacuum brake was introduced during the

30. There were three extensions of the railway opened during the year, viz., from Ambalangoda to Galle, from Haputalé to

Bandarawela, and from Polgahawela to Kurunegala.

The mileage of railway open for traffic is 270 miles, as against 231 in 1893, which in its turn was 40 miles in excess of the

previous year.

31. The gross profit, namely, the excess of receipts over working expenses, was a little under 3 per cent. A large portion of the expenditure of the Department is, however, in sterling, and the loss on exchange consequently very great. The passenger fares and rates have remained the same, or been lowered since the fall in the rupee began, and the travelling population have benefited at the expense of the railway. Nearly four and a quarter million passengers were conveyed during the year.

POST OFFICE.

32. The revenue and expenditure of the Post Office for the last two years is as follows:-

			-12	Revenue.	Expenditure.
				Rs.	Rs.
1893	•	-	34-1	605,089	650,999
1894	-	-	-	654,378	690,807

There was a large increase in all items of business-postal and telegraphic, money orders (both local and foreign), parcel post. registered packets, &c.

CHYLON. 1894. 33. It is proposed to abolish the existing privilege of free transport of mails and parcels at present enjoyed by Government Departments. In future, service stamps will be used. In this way an accurate estimate of the amount properly to be credited to the Post Office will be obtained.

34. The deposits in the Post Office Savings Banks increased from Rs.606,417 in 1893 to Rs.719,352. Post Office Savings Banks were introduced at the beginning of 1885, when the amount deposited was Rs.30,315. Facilities are granted to depositors for the purchase of Government 4 per cent. stock, just as consols can be purchased through the Savings Banks in Great Britain.

35. The total number of post and telegraph offices, receiving

and telephone offices, is 350.

36. The geographical position of Colombo has suggested the expediency of making it a Central Foreign Sorting Depôt, and correspondence is now forwarded à decouvert, or in open mails, from India, New Zealand, Queensland, Hongkong, Netherlands-India, and other countries to Colombo, where it is sorted.

The new General Post Office, which is lighted throughout with the electric light, will enable the Department to deal with the

increased business with which it now has to deal.

LEGISLATION.

37. There was but little legislation of importance during the year. The following were the principal Ordinances passed:—

An Ordinance relating to habitual criminals and to convicts licensed to be at large, under which a system of ticket-of-leave was brought into force, and the Bertillon system of identification by measurement legalized.

An Ordinance for the prevention of accidents by gunpowder and other explosives, framed on the lines of the English Acts,

and after reference to the Home Office.

An Ordinance to abolish the import duty on certain metals, in the interests, mainly, of the planting industries; and Ordinances amending the Village Communities Ordinance and the law relating to the granting of pensions to widows and orphans.

VITAL STATISTICS.

38. The annexed table shows the proportion of births and deaths per 1,000 for the five years from 1890 to 1894.

		1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Births	-	31.9	31.8	29.8	30.8	32.5
Deaths		23.0	28.5	27.2	29.1	27.3

39. The births exceeded the deaths by 16,517, as compared with an excess of 5,738 in 1893.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

CEYLON. 1894.

40. The arrivals of immigrant coolies amounted to 85,256, and the departures to 66 292, being an excess of arrivals over departures of 18,964. In 1893 the excess was 18,495.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

41. The general health of the people was fairly satisfactory.

42. There were three small outbreaks of cholera in the north of the Island: 75 cases were reported, of which 60 proved fatal. Only 10 cases of small-pox were reported, of which but one was fatal. The figures were, for 1892, 355 cases and 56 deaths; for 1893, 140 cases and 26 deaths. Malarial fever, however, was prevalent more or less throughout the Island.

43. There were 144,309 persons vaccinated or re-vaccinated, as

against 147,982 in 1893.

44. The number of hospitals and dispensaries open in 1893 and 1894 respectively was as follows:—

	-			1893.	1894.
Civil Hospitals -				37	43
Medical Aid Hospitals			-	13	13
Immigrant Hospitals			-	7	6
Dispensaries			-	200	206
Asylums		_	-	2	2
Lying-in Hospital -		-		1	1

The death-rate of all sick treated in hospitals fell very materially being 9.75 in 1894, as against 12.40 in 1893.

45. The expenditure of the Medical Department amounted to

Rs.1,266,712, as against Rs.980,440 in 1893.

46. One of the main features of the working of the Department has been the extension of the dispensary system. In 1875, when the present Head of the Department took charge, 6,890 persons in all were treated. In 1894, 651,987 were treated. The system of estate dispensaries has been inaugurated with satisfactory results.

47. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance was as follows:—

			Rs.	C.
Total cost in 1894 -	-	-	331,692	0
Receipts from Estates		-	70,187	0
Export Duty -		-	82,857	0
Deficit		-	165,929	0

The deficit snows an increase of some Rs.16,000 paid by Government in excess of 1893. The deficit in 1892 was only Rs.89,642.

CEYLON. 1894.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

48. The following table shows the number of cases instituted and of persons convicted before Police Magistrates during 1893 and 1894.

	_		Cases instituted.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1893			51,773	94,550	20,442
1894			56,097	99,036	18,539

49. In the District and Supreme Courts the figures are as follows:—

			District (Courts.	Supreme Court.		
	Ye	ar.		Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1893	-		-	470	381	315	216
1894	-		-	536	221	420	307

50. The results of trials for murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder were as follows:—

-	Number of Persons tried.	Number convicted of murder.	Number convicted of Culpable Homiclde.	Number acquitted.	Number executed.
1893	97	24	38	35	11
1894	136	40	44	52	27

51. There has been a regrettable increase in the number of persons convicted by the superior courts, and in the number of homicides.

PRISONS.

52. No special changes were made in the management of the prisons in Ceylon. Prisoners have been transferred to Colombo from Kurunégala, where they had previously been kept on the ground of health. It was found that by giving them small doses of quinine regularly they retained their health after transfer to Colombo. It was a curious but well-established fact that prisoners previously transferred from the malarious climate of Kurunégala to the sea breezes of Colombo invariably suffered severely in health, and deaths were frequent.

CEYLON.

53. The experiment of sending habitual criminals to Jaffna has proved satisfactory.

54. Of 250 habituals sent to that jail only 36 ever returned.

55. The total number of admissions for 1894 was 6,967, as compared with 7,922 in 1893. Deducting road defaulters (826), the number of admissions was the lowest since 1883, and the daily average (2,381) was the lowest since 1880.

56. For the fourth year in succession, the daily average of men imprisoned on conviction for offences shows a steady decline.

The figures are:

1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894
3,509	3,353	2,684	2,495	2,381

so that the prison population has been reduced by about a third

in that period.

57. The First Offenders' Ordinance, under which persons convicted by magistrates of a first offence may be discharged on giving security for good behaviour, and the Youthful Offenders' Ordinance, under which juvenile offenders are sent to certified industrial schools, are no doubt responsible in great measure for this great decrease in the prison population.

58. It unfortunately does not prove that serious crimes have diminished, as the number of admissions on committal from the

higher courts was 859, the highest figure since 1888.

59. The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs.473,060, as against Rs.464,653 in 1893. These last two years have been the lowest since 1884. The actual cost of dieting was less than in any previous year in the decade from 1884 to 1894. Hospital charges were unfortunately much the highest in the same period, being no less than Rs. 21,947. The next highest figure was only Rs. 9,348.

60. The health of the prisoners showed no improvement, the

death-rate being 61 in 1894 as against 56 in 1893.

61. The health of the prisoners in the Convict Establishment remained unsatisfactory, though the death-rate fell a little, from 88 to 74.

62. It is proposed to very largely reduce the number of prisoners in Welikada, which is the largest jail in the Island, by transferring as many as possible to Kandy, Mahara, and Mutwal jails. The last-mentioned jail is built close to the sea, in proximity to the new North-East Breakwater, on which a large number of convicts will be employed.

63. The daily sick per 1,000 of the total daily average strength

in the Island was 92.29 in 1893 and 91.51 in 1894.

64. There was a decrease in the number of punishments inflicted on prisoners, and it is hoped that by the introduction of pingo-carrying a large reduction will be effected. The treadmill is in

CEYLON. 1894. use at Welikada, and it is proposed to utilize the force obtained either for driving a sawmill or charging accumulators with electricity for lighting the jail.

EDUCATION.

- 65. During 1894 there was an increase of 8,000 in the number of scholars in schools presented for examination.
- 66. In 1893 the number was 123,278, as against 131,334 in 1894. In 1885 the number was 83,944 only, showing an increase in the decade of over 50 per cent.

In 1870, the first year in which figures are available, the total was 16,927 only.

- 67. In point of attendance there was also improvement, the number of scholars in schools reporting to the Department being 163,910 in 1894, as compared with 157,247 in 1893.
- 68. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population for 1893 and 1894 is as follows:—

I	Provinc	e.		1893.	1894.
Western			-	1 in 12	1 in 12
Central	-		-	1 in 30	1 in 28
Northern		-		1 in 12	1 in 13
Southern	-		-	1 in 21	1 in 20
Eastern	-	-	-	1 in 18	1 in 19
North-West	ern		-	1 in 34	1 in 36
North-Centr	ral -			1 in 47	1 in 37
Uva -	-	-	-	1 in 54	1 in 47
Sabaragamu	ıwa.	-	-	1 in 41	1 in 38

69. The annexed tables give the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, unaided, and pansala schools for 1893 and 1894, together with the average attendance and average cost to Government of the scholars in Government and aided schools:—

	No. of Schools in				Attend	ded by		
	1893.	1894.	Boys in 1893.	Boys in 1894.	Girls in 1893.	Girls in 1894.	Total in 1893.	Total in 1894.
Government schools -	456	468	35,443	37,666	6,237	6,700	41,680	44,366
Grant-in-aid schools	1,005	1,042	55,804	59,976	25,794	26,992	81,598	86,968
Unaided private schools -	687	730	20,785	19,929	6,535	6,054	27,320	25,983
Pansala schools -	1,728	1,678	6,649	6,593	-	-	6,649	6,593
Total	3,876	3,918	118,681	124,164	38,566	39,746	157,247	163,910

_	Average Number of Scholars per School.		of Scholars per Average Cost to Govern-			Average Cost to Government per Girl.		
	Iņ 1893.	In 1894.	In 1893.	In 1894.	In 1893.	In 1894.		
Government schools.	91	94	Rs. c. 4 90	Rs. c. 4 89	Rs. c. 3 62	Rs. c. 3 69		
Grant-in-aid schools.	81	83	2 85 per scholar	2 97 per scholar	Boys and girls no	t distinguished		
Unaided private schls.	40	35	-					
Pansala schools.	4	3			-			

CEYLON. 1894.

- 70. The Technical School of Instruction continues to make satisfactory progress. The Superintendent reports that he had to reject ten applications for admission owing to the want of accommodation. The average daily attendance has been 49, whilst the number for which it was designed was only 25. The question of its extension is under consideration.
- 71. The School of Agriculture has not altogether fulfilled expectations, the sons of landowners not having joined to the extent that was hoped for. Recently a Government dairy in connection with the school has been started, and, in spite of a most unfortunate attack of rinderpest, which damaged its operations financially for a time, it has proved a successful experiment. The Government hospitals and asylums are supplied with pure milk, a boon which they stood much in need of, and at the present time the profits are considerable, aggregating Rs.500 a month.
- 72. The expenditure on Education in 1894 was Rs.597,388, as against Rs.600,836 in 1893.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Colombo, October 8, 1895. E. NOEL WALKER, Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 175.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 147 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majest August 1896.



LONDON:

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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Cole	ony.				Year.
141	Turks and Caicos Islands					1894
142	Malta -	-		-	-	"
143	Gambia	-		-		"
144	Windward Islands -	-		-	-	19
145	Trinidad and Tobago			19-16	•	"
146	Gibraltar				-	"
147	Falkland Islands -		0.		-	,,
148	Hong Kong -					22
149	Straits Settlements -	-			-	"
150	Lagos	-			-	,,
151	Seychelles	-			, -	,,
152	Basutoland -	-	-		•	1894-95
153	Fiji			-	-	1894
154	St. Helena -	-			-	,,
155	Ceylon	-		-	-	"
156	Mauritius - "	-		-	-	"
157	Labuan	-			-	29
158	Gold Coast	-		•	-	,,,
159	British Guiana -	-		-		"
160	'Sierra Leone -	-	-		-	,,,
161	Jamaica	-	•		-	1894-95
162	British Honduras -				-	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	-	-		-	1894-5
164	Newfoundland -				-	1894
165	Gambia	-			-	"
166	Bermuda	-			-	,,
167	Leeward Islands -	-		-	-	,,,
168	British New Guinea			-	-	1894-95
169	Zululand	-	10 ·		-	1895
170	Sierra Leone -	-			-	,,
171	Gibraltar -	-	~			77
172	Malta	-				27
173	Barbados -	-		-		,,,
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	-				>>

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony		Subject.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Gold Coast Zululand - Sierra Leone Canada - Bahamas - Hong Kong Newfoundland	 	Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany. Emigration. Sisal Industry. Bubonic Plague. Mineral Resources.

No. 175.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1895.

(For Report for 1894 see No. 147.)

Sir R. T. GOLDSWORTHY to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Stanley,

SIR.

May 30, 1896. I HAVE the honour herewith to forward the Blue Book Report for the year 1895, compiled by Captain Halkett, Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

ROGER TUCKVILLE GOLDSWORTHY, Governor.

REPORT on the FALKLAND ISLANDS BLUE BOOK, 1895

Taxes, Duties, Fees, and other sources of Revenue.

Revenue is mainly derived from rent of leased Crown lands. customs duties, and interest upon invested capital, the proceeds of sale of freehold land.

The annual receipts are supplemented, often to a considerable extent, by revenue from the Post Office, port and harbour dues, fees of court, tax on tenements in Stanley, and licenses as follows, publicans, wholesale and retail, tobacco, town and country. billiard tables, auctioneers, dogs.

There are no export duties, and import duties only on liquor

and tobacco.

Revenue.

The actual revenue in 1895 exceeded that of the previous year by 5601. derived from larger customs receipts and rents for Crown land.

The revenue for 1894 was 11,958l.

1895 " 12,5181. 99

Wt. 20348. o 93040.

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1895.

Subjoined are the items of revenue for 1895-

			£
Customs	-	-	3,550
Port, harbour, and tonnage dues		-	137
Licenses and internal revenue		-	503
Fees of court and offices -	-	-	492
Post Office	-	-	1,068
Rents of leased lands and common	nage	•	4,880
Miscellaneous	-	1	45
Interest on investments -	-	-	1,843
Total -	-10	-	12,518

Under the following heads a total increase of 1,2371. is declared over the previous year, viz.:—

1. Customs.—414l., from large imports of dutiable articles.

2. Licenses and internal revenue.—95l., from issue of more licenses and receipt of larger royalties upon seals taken.

3. Rents.—651l., owing to renewal of expired leases at double rentals.

4. Interest on investments.—77l., from larger deposits in the Government Savings Bank invested in home securities.

A total falling off in receipts of 677l. is shown under the heads of—

1. Fees of court and offices.—313l., through decreased probate business and court fees.

2. Port, harbour, and tonnage dues.—71., owing to fewer vessels paying pilotag.

3. Post Office.—1371. No sea transit rates having been received during the year.

4. Miscellaneous.—2201., owing to the absence of sale of property.

Instalments due on account of purchases of freehold Crown land were received during the year to the amount of 2,037l.

This sum is not included in current revenue but is invested in a distinct capital fund, the "Land Sales Fund," the interest accruing to which is credited to general revenue.

On the 31st December 1895 this fund stood at 15,168l. invested in consols and inscribed stock.

The revenue receipts for 1895 show a satisfactory advance over what was estimated for the year thus:—

Estimated.	Actual.	Advance.	
£	£	£	
£ 11,517	£ 12,518	1,001	

Thi	s increase was received under th	e following	g he	ads:—	FALKLAN ISLANDS
				£	1895.
	Customs		-	285	
	Licenses and internal revenue	239 54	-	150	
	Fees of court, &c.	Jo dienic de		46	
	Post Office		-	357	
	Rents	TO THE COLD	9.1	91	
	Interest on invested capital		-	113	
	Total		-	1,042	

Against these a reduction has to be made of amounts received less those estimated of—

Port, harbour, &c., dues	- To-	M. 5-7 114	Say -	3
Miscellaneous		-	- i	38
				-
Total -		e authorite	-	41

The increase is mainly due to a large importation of dutiable articles, that is liquor and tobacco; to an unforeseen demand on the part of collectors and others for stamps, and to a considerable addition to the amount of money deposited in the Government Savings Bank, and remitted to England for investment.

Expenditure.

The actual expenditure for all services exceeded the actual revenue by 640*l*., and the estimated expenditure by 1,766*l*., as thus detailed:—

More than estimated.						Less than estimated.					
			£	s.	d.				£	8.	d
Pensions -	-	-	20	17	8	Governor	-	-	29	18	(
Colonial Sec.'s	Depar	tment	78	7	7	Customs		-	12	15	8
Audit -	-	-	11	11	0	Police -			12	7	1
Port and marin	e		141	9	9	Prisons -		DO BOOK	52	19	2
Legal	-	-	76	8	0	Ecclesiastical			6	. 7	8
Medical	-	-	26	6	5	Transport	-		169	13	2
Education	-	-	58	14	8	Survey -			247	10	5
iscellaneous	- 1	-	518	15	8						
Post Office	-	-	41	0	9						
Public Works	-	-	1,043	1	10						
Interest -	-	-	138	6	3						
Drawbacks	•	-	142	17	0						
Total			2,297	16	7	Total	-		531	11	8

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1895. The estimated expenditure for 1895 was 11,393l., and the actual expenditure 13,159l.

The principal causes of the excess of expenditure are to be

found—

- 1. In a thorough refit of the Government pilot boat Victoria, and repairs incidental on a subsequent accident thereto, amounting to 150l., charged under head of Port and Marine.
- 2. In the grant of 76l. under the head of Legal on account of the previous year.
- 3. In the purchase for 500l. of a freehold residence for use as officers' quarters charged to "Miscellaneous."

4. In expenditure involved by the lighting and improvement of the town of Stanley, Public Works Vote.

5. In the liability of Government to pay interest upon larger amounts deposited than were anticipated in the Government Savings Bank.

6. In refunds of monies paid by way of rent, and for compulsory purchase of freehold blocks of land necessitated by sales of land, the adjustment of leases, and exchange of sections.

A considerable saving was, on the other hand, effected under the heads of "Prisons," "Transport," and "Survey," resulting (1) from fewer committals to prison, (2) absence of liability for passages of Government officers, and (3) decrease in wages required for chainmen and in the cost of maintaining horses.

The general expenditure for 1895 exceeded that of 1894 by 764*l*., mainly through larger outlay on public works and the

£

acquisition of freehold property.

Su

	Expenditu	are for	1894	- 7	-	-	12,395
	99	"	1895	-	-	-	13,159
ıb	joined are	the ite	ms exp	ended	:		
							£
	Pensions	-		-	-		- 334
	Governor		-	•	-		1,394
	Secretaria	ıt	1-16	-	-		1,109
	Customs	-	-		-		192
	Audit			-			- 66
	Port and	marine					- 36
	Legal			•			599
	Police	-		-			- 568
	Prisons	-		101-			97
	Medical	-		-			605
	Education	1		-			513
	Ecclesiast	ical	-				462
	Transport		1		and other	4.	100
	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE						100

Miscellaneous		1901	4 15-hu		£ 779	FALKLAND ISLANDS, 1895.
Post Office	-	-	-		2,271	
Public Works	-	•		-	2,276	
Interest on Sa	vings Ban	k dep	osits	-	808	
Drawback and	refunds				223	
Survey -		-			402	
Total	-				13,159	

The payments under various heads show as below compared with 1894.

				Increase.	Decrease.
The form the same		pre S	1	£	£
Pensions	-	-	-	21	3771 - E.A.
Governor	-	-	-	11	birmin-1
Colonial Secretary's Dep	partm	ent	-	65	-
Customs	-	-	-	10	The February
Audit	-	-	-	10	L 186 2
Port and marine -			-	187	m 1 7 - 1
Legal		-	-	107	
Police	-		-	75	
Prisons	-		-		69
Medical	-		-	22	_
Education		-	-	48	_
Ecclesiastical -	- 1		-	1	
Transport -	• 1	-	-	_	464
Miscellaneous -	-	-	-	183	500 TA 10
Post Office -	-	-	-	23	-
Public Works, including	Surv	rey	-	283	_
Interests on deposits	- Jak	-	-	51	_
Drawbacks and refunds		•	-	200	
Total		-	-	1,297	533

Assets and Liabilities.

This statement shows an excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December 1895 of 15,287l. 17s. 11d., as compared with 14,020% on the 31st December 1894.

The difference between this excess and the amount shown as expended on investments in the Land Sales Account represents the surplus remaining at disposal at the close of the year

Among the assets, investments in the hands of the Crown Agents have largely increased thus:—

		1894.	1895.
T3C-1A		£	£
Land Sales Account		12,979	14,895
Savings Bank -	-	27,921	33,691

On the other hand the Surplus Fund has decreased and advances have been paid off thus:—

16 mar =	1894.	1895.
	£	£
Surplus Fund Account - Advances due to Colony	1,840 489	1,041 326

(Gross value about 1,500l.)

No account is taken in the Colonial Assets of the large amount of stores for current use in carrying on public works, the cost of which has been defrayed from Revenue.

The liabilities are largely swelled by increased deposits in the Government Savings Bank, and by the larger subsidy demanded for an improved mail service thus:—

			1894.	1895.
			£	£
Savings Bank Mail Contract		-	33,045	35,604 1,200
Mail Contract	1000-7	-	900	1,200

Government Savings Bank.

The Government instituted this savings bank in January 1888, since which date the transactions up to the final audit at the close of the last financial, year, on the 30th September 1895, have been as below:—

Yea	r.		Accounts opened.	Accounts closed.	Number of Deposits.	Number of Withdrawals.	Amount Deposits v Interes accrued	vith t	Amou Withdr		
1st April 30th Sept	1888	to	32		60		£ s. 4,201 1	d. 5	£	s.	d.
1888-1889	. 1000		67	7	150	37	13,809 8	8	2.871	5	10
1889-1890			5	21	188	93	8,972 7	4	6,300		
1890-1891			70	30	256	182	8,577 2	2	4,760	1	6
1891-1892			62	37	291	103	8,668 5	9	5,355	9	2
1892-1893			60	32	250	112	11,923 1	4	6,790	3	5
1893-1894			68	38	325	123	10,424 17	3	7,817	0	11
1894-1895			64	32	312	148	9,355 6	4	7,620	14	11
			479	197	1,832	798	75,931 10	3	41,515	15	2

On 30th September 1895 there were 282 depositors, nearly all of the labouring class, owning 34,415l. 15s. 1d., or an average each of 122l.

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1895.

The amount of 808l. 5s. 4d., or 50l. 14s. 3d. more than in the preceding year, in interest was paid away or credited to depositors during the financial year.

The rate prescribed by law is $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum payable for any sum of one complete pound and over and for any period of one complete calendar month and over.

9681. 0s. 2d. was credited to the Government as interest upon the bank capital, invested thus:—

				£	8.	d.
In Consols	-	-		5,038	8	4
In Inscribed	Stock	-		27,353	15	4
				32,392	3	8
	Uninves	sted	-	2,023	11	5
				34,415	15	1
					The state of the s	-

The only expenses involved by the conduct of the Savings Bank were 15l. 15s. for a new and complete audit by the paymaster of one of Her Majesty's ships with the local mail steamship agent.

Subjoined is the capital account and the profit and loss account.

FALKLAND ISLANDS SAVINGS BANK CAPITAL ACCOUNT, 30th September 1895.

DR.

1895. 30th Sept., invested in securities - Cash in hand, uninvested -	£ 32,392 20,230	8				£ s. d. £ s. d. £ s. d. On deposit 30th Sept. 1894 32,681 3 8 Deposits 1st Oct. 1894 to 30th Sept. 1895 - 8,547 1 0
			34,415	19	1	Withdrawals 7,620 14 11 Interest 1st Oct. 1894 to 30th Sept. 1895 - 808 5 4 34,415 15 1
			34,415	15	1	84,415 15 1

FALKLAND ISLANDS BANK PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 30th September 1895.

Interest on Investments	£ - 96	d. 2	£	s.	d,	£ s. Interest paid and credited to depositors 1st	d.	£	s. d.
	Ī		968	0	2		0	824	0 4
			968	0	2	11011 011 7011 11 11 11 11 11 11	-		19 10

Checked, audited, and found correct.

M. STEPHENS, H. SCHLOTTFELDT, Commissioners. F. CRAIGIE-HALKETT,

Treasurer.

Postal.

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1895.

The contract with the German Kosmos Steamship Company for the conveyance of mails which expired during the year was renewed for a period of five years, with an obligation to call at Port Stanley regularly once every three weeks.

This also led to more frequent communication being established with the West Falkland Island; the result being that though not as yet a link in an ocean cable the whole Colony is brought into

closer touch with the outside world.

During the year the articles which passed through the postal department still maintained a steady increase.

There was an unusually large increase in the sale of stamps,

amounting to 938l., exceeding that of 1894 by 252l.

This increase is owing to the larger demand for stamps by collectors.

The sale of money orders in the Colony increased from 5,088l. in 1894 to 6,007l. in 1895.

Shipping.

The number of steam vessels entered and cleared was 15, as against 21 in the previous year, which included the passing calls of the Norwegian fleet en route for the Antarctic.

Deducting these latter from the preceding year the steam traffic

during the present year in reality increased.

This increase is due to the more frequent calls of the German line of steamers, which now convey the mails with merchandise regularly once every three weeks.

Twenty-one sailing vessels arrived in the Colony in 1895 the aggregate tonnage of which was 14,204 and the crews of which

numbered 311.

Of the arrivals, nine were engaged in the trade of the Colony, 12 put into Stanley to repair damages. Of the disabled ships there were six British, one American, one German, two Norwegian, and one Chilian. Nine of these repaired and proceeded on their respective voyages. One British vessel, the "Thomas Stephens" sailed under jury rig to the Cape to undergo repairs there. While the "Glengowan" of Glasgow, 1,801 tons, on her first voyage from Glasgow to San Francisco with a cargo of coals, was lost in Port Stanley. The cargo was discovered to be on fire and the vessel had to be abandoned. The crew were saved.

Though these arrivals give an increase in number over those of 1894, they show a falling off as compared with 1893. The tonnage, however, of both steam and sailing vessels has largely increased.

The reasons which were then enumerated still apply.

Steam largely replacing sail, vessels of small tonnage giving place to vessels of greater size, the improvement in the quality of preserved provisions, and the more commodious storage space for water, indeed the fact that vessels are in every way better found is one cause of the diminution in the number of vessels putting in here.

Though British shipping is not paramount, the natural products of the Colony are borne direct by the German line of steamers to the United Kingdom, and the share of the United Kingdom in the imports amounts to 89.4 per cent.

The subjoined tables show the total numbers entered and cleared as compared with 1894, and their respective nationalities.

Sailing Vessels.

			18	94.	1895.			
			No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
Entered		-	18	12,043	21	14,204		
Cleared	-	-	13	6,564	17	10,036		

Steam Ships.

		18	94.	1895.			
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
Entered		21	26,445	15	27,986		
Cleared	W-V	21	26,345	15	27,986		

Sailing, 1895.

				Ent	ered.	Cleared.			
				No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
England		- 1		15	10,801	12	7,325		
Germany		-	-	1	1,603	1	1,603		
United States			-	1	60	1	60		
Chili -	No. 10		-	1	358	1	358		
Norway -			-	.,1	1,382	1	363		
	Total			19	14,804	16	9,709		

Steam.

FALKLAND ISLANDS 1895.

			Ent	ered.	Cleared.		
	£ 1 = 1		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
Germany		-	14	26,093	14	26,093	
England		-	1	1,893	1	1,893	

Industries.

A departure of great importance to the staple industry of the Colony was made by the appointment of a stock inspector and staff.

Much improvement in the breeding, care, and management of sheep, and the means adopted for the eradication of sheep disease, is expected from the constant supervision and advice (supported by adequate legislation) of a competent and experienced staff of inspectors living and moving with the special object among the farmers. The chief inspector's report for 1895 forms part of the Appendix D.

Imports and Exports.

The estimated values of imports were higher, but those of the exports lower, in 1895 than in either of the preceding years.

	-		1893.	1894.	1895.
Imports		-	71,126	62,270	71,826
Exports	N- 10	36.	134,872	131,801	122,988

The following table shows the imports and exports from and to various countries side by side with the previous year.

		1				
		Imp	orts.	Exports.		
		1894.	1895.	1894.	1895.	
United Kingdom -	-	54,500	64,248	130,071	122,983	
Germany	-	759	720		24 <u>10</u> 100	
Uruguay		1,712	3,615	- 1		
Chile	-	4,232	3,243	1,160	<u> </u>	
Argentina	-	1,067	-	570		
Totals	•	62,270	71,826	131,801	122,988	

The nature of the imports continues practically unchanged, and by far the greater bulk come from the United Kingdom.

The subjoined table of the principal exports shows a reassuring

advance over 1894.

	Quan	atity.	Value.		
Article.	1894.	1895.	1894.	1895.	
Wool	3,808,475	4,024,500	£ 105,042	£ 100,612	
Tallow	179,500	329,900	1,980	2,749	
Sheep Skins	82,150	80,230	16,430	10,028	
Carcases	11,681	19,432	4,672	6,801	
Seal Skins	651	672	720	1,008	

The values are, according to the state of the markets, liable to fluctuation, and in preceding years have undoubtedly been taken from the highest rather than an average stand point. Those for 1895 are taken at a low market rate, thus lowering the apparent total value of larger imports.

Education.

At the commencement of the year the question of Education was among those which received the careful attention of the Government.

The report of the Inspector of Schools shows that education in

the Government Schools has progressed.

The elementary subjects of reading, writing, and arithmetic received the attention of the bulk of the scholars and next to those the most popular are geography, history, drawing and music.

It is unnecessary to do more than make passing reference to the report of the Commissioners on the requirements in this respect of the West Falkland Island, where the necessity for the provision throughout of proper facility for elementary education was urgently brought forward, as the appointment of itinerary schoolmasters, though approved of, had not been concluded owing to the impossibility of procuring competent teachers locally.

Between the two other schools in Stanley, both denominational, and the Government School a wholesome rivalry has arisen which has become more accentuated during the past year owing to the efforts made to induce the head masters of these quasi voluntary schools to improve their curriculum, and the appurtenances of their schools, and to put them on a par, as far as possible, with the Government elementary school. The difficulty they have

hitherto had to contend with, has not resulted from the want of willingness on the part of the local managers, but from the want of the necessary funds. Government partially met this want by aiding these voluntary schools, and by legislating therefor at the

same time secured a larger attendance of pupils.

The total number of scholars on the registers receiving education throughout the East Island, which was returned as 244 in 1893, rose to 308 in 1894 and to 317 in 1895. The general improvement in the average attendance as shown by the latest returns is a matter of considerable satisfaction and reflects credit alike on parents, managers, and teachers.

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1895.

Defences.

There are no Imperial troops stationed in the Colony, but there is a volunteer force composed of infantry recruited locally and equipped with the Martini, the men being also drilled with two M. L. R. nine-pounders. The force is officered by Colonial officials and residents assisted by a drill instructor belonging to the regular forces.

The cost of the force is met by the capitation grant earned annually by the members who are returned as "efficients," this cost is borne entirely by the local government. In the year under review there were 54 efficients out of 107 enrolled members as compared with 61 out of a total number of 100 in the preceding

year.

Her Majesty's ships of war stationed on the south-east coast

of America visited the Island during the year.

With the arrival of H.M.S. "Barracouta" in October, the proposal to transfer the firing range from the foreign port of Colonia, in the Republic of Uruguay, to this Colony was carried out by the selection of a site for that purpose outside the town of Stanley.

The fact of the squadron undergoing their firing pratice here will necessarily make the visits of Her Majesty's ships more frequent and will cause these islands, which form the sole British territory on the South American station, to be used to more

advantage for naval purposes than heretofore.

Legislation.

Of the eleven Ordinances passed during the year, and which received Her Majesty's approval, the following deserve particular notice.

1. "An Ordinance to make provision for the Eradication of

Scab or other Infectious or Contagious Diseases in Sheep."

Under this Ordinance a chief inspector and two sub-inspectors from New Zealand have been appointed. All of the sheep stations in the Colony have been visited and inspected by these officers and active steps taken to eradicate scab from the various sheep runs on which it was discovered. The long experience of

the chief inspector in sheep farming and in the exportation of live sheep and frozen meat will be utilized, if practicable, to stimulate every branch of the most important industry in the Colony.

2. "An Ordinance to Regulate the Attendance of Children at

School."

This Ordinance has already resulted in a large increase in the attendance of children at the four schools in Stanley. It is hoped that further benefits will result from the enforcement of its provisions, and that it will be possible to extend them to other districts of the Colony.

3. "An Ordinance to provide for the appointment of a

Stipendiary Magistrate for the Island of West Falkland."

This law vests in the magistrate of the West Falkland Island the same powers and jurisdiction that are exercised by the Police Magistrate of the Colony, who is stationed in Stanley. It thus enables residents on the West Island to have certain disputes summarily settled on the spot which could previously only have been decided in Stanley.

The stipendiary magistrate is ex officio collector of customs, and whilst additional facilities are thus afforded to trade, a proper

control may be exercised over possible smuggling.

Ecclesiastical.

The clergy in charge of the churches in Stanley, namely, the Protestant (2), Baptist (1), and Roman Catholic (2), remained at the same number as in the previous year.

There are no places for Divine worship outside of the town; the ministrations in the camp throughout the Colony are carried

out by the clergy of the various denominations.

The report by the Colonial Chaplain forms Appendix B.

Population.

The total estimated population is 1,953, including aliens and resident strangers, the latter of whom amounted to 120 according to the census returns of 1891. The inhabitants of Stanley number approximately 700, the remainder reside in the country districts.

The total number of births was 51 as against 57 in 1894.

There were seven marriages.

The death rate amongst the inhabitants was low, viz., 10.24 per 1,000, which speaks volumes for the healthiness of these islands.

Medical report forms Appendix A.

Public Works.

Considerable improvement was effected during the year in the state of the roads in Stanley.

Important reclamation work was begun and an extensive sea wall or breakwater erected at the most suitable point in the sea

frontage for filling in.

The system of street lighting was practically completed and where, but a very few years back, the mere venturing out after dark entailed some danger and no little discomfort, it is now possible to walk with perfect security and even for pleasure. Among other new works of a public nature must be included buildings erected at Fox Bay on the West Island for the accommodation of the first official appointed to fill the newly created and important post of stipendiary magistrate of that district.

Civil Establishment.

The personnel at Stanley, on the East Falklands, remained the same as in the previous year.

The discharge of duties appertaining to customs and excise, &c. on the West Falklands, which had fallen since 1888 upon the Assistant Colonial Surgeon, was discontinued during the year.

Whilst this officer was of great assistance to the Government, the necessity of the change was apparent from a casual inspection made of the Island when it was found that the arrangement by which the expenses of this medical officer were met partly by Government funds and partly by contributions from the residents on the West Falklands, had the effect of dividing his responsi-It therefore became a matter for consideration whether the combined offices should not be reformed and the administrative functions transferred to another.

It was subsequently deemed essential that this part of the Colony should be placed under the supervision of an independent official.

The post of Stipendiary Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Customs for the West Falklands was consequently created, and Mr. G. Hurst, who was appointed thereto, assumed the duties as such towards the end of the year.

In the ecclesiastical department it was decided to place the incumbent of the Baptist Church upon the same footing as regards State assistance as the Roman Catholic Priest, and the Assistant Minister of the Anglican Church, and provision was accordingly made in the estimates for the following year.

In the secretariat the good service of the Treasury clerk was recognised by an increase, approved by the Secretary of State, of 251. per annum to his pay, such increase to be personal to himself.

General.

The acquisition by the Admiralty of a rifle range for the use of Her Majesty's ships was a step of some importance as affecting the future of the Colony.

Apart from the tangible benefits arising from the presence of Her Majesty's ships, thus in a measure assured, it is no small

o 93040.

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1895.

matter that the possible utility of these islands for Imperial

purposes has been recognised.

The geographical position of the islands for naval purposes of coaling supply and rendezvous for both Atlantic and Pacific stations is unrivalled, while the many useful natural harbours offer an additional argument for utilising this, the only English soil south of Trinidad on the Atlantic, and Vancouver on the Pacific side of America, and which commands the trade round the Horn and through the Straits of Magellan.

No mean proportion of the output of this Colony is the amount

paid for carriage of imports and exports.

In the absence of correct returns from the principal carriers it

is not possible to quote exact figures.

Approximately, the amount paid out during 1895 for passengers and freight cannot be less than 10,000l. Apportioned thus:—

	t
For passengers between England, Monte	
Video, Punta Arenas, and Stanley -	3,700
Freight on exports, wool, &c	4,300
" , other goods, exports and imports	2,000
Total	10,000

To this payment from private as well as Government sources, but mainly private, must be added the annual mail subsidy of 2,500l, making up the respectable annual receipt by the mail and freight carriers from the Colony of 12,500l.

May 8, 1896.

F. CRAIGIE HALKETT, Colonial Secretary.

APPENDIX A.

Annual Medical Report by Colonial Surgeon.

SIR, Stanley, March 12, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to furnish my annual medical report for the Blue Book on the sanitary condition of the settlement

for the year 1895.

I am happy to place on record the fact that the health of the settlement still continues very good, and the entire absence of endemic disease or other preventible malady is remarkable and testify as to the health-giving qualities peculiar to these Islands: true the hybrid known as influenza pays an annual visitation in the spring of each year, but no tatal cases have resulted from it. The ordinary cases, so common in England a nongst children, are rare. Owing to the unprecedently severe winter and spring, catarrh and febrile were common.

I regret to inform you that the number of casualties from drowning have been in excess of what has occurred for some years past.

PALKLAND ISLANDS. 1895.

19

I have, &c.

S. HAMILTON.

The Hon. The Colonial Secretary.

APPENDIX B.

REPORT OF EDUCATION FOR 1895.

There has been no change since the last report in the number of schools in operation.

In Stanley there are—

- 1. The Government senior mixed school.
- infants
- Roman Catholic 3.
- Baptist

In the Falkland Islands Company's camps—

- 1. One mixed school in Darwin Harbour.
- 2. One travelling schoolmaster.

The education in the Government schools has, if anything, progressed. Both schools having passed very good examinations before the Christmas holidays.

The private schools were not officially examined.

The Colonial Government is about to appoint two travelling schoolmasters on West Falkland.

The number of children on the rolls, and the average attendance in each school, as far as supplied, are as follows:—

The Government Senior Mixed School.

		On the Roll.	Average Attendance.
Boys -		41	28
Girls -	-	42	20
Total		83	48

The Government Infant School.

			On the Roll.	Average Attendance.
Boys			44	29
Girls		-	42	26
the second	Total		86	55

Roman Catholic School.

				On the Roll.	Average Attendance.
Boys	-			25	23
Girls	•	-	-	12	11
To	otal			37	34

The Baptist School.

	-	-		On the Roll.	Average Attendance.	
Boys	-	on Problem		32	27	
Girls	3- 6			24	19	
	Total		-	56	46	

The Falkland Island Company's Camps.—Darwin Harbour.

			On the Roll.	Average Attendance.
Boys -	-	-	8]
Girls -	-	-	13	} 21
Total	- 1		21	

The Travelling Schoolmaster.

	-	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
On the Roll -		16	12	28

From the foregoing returns the following is the result:-

1. Total number on the rolls in Stanley - - 268

2. Average attendance - - - 183
In the total number of children on the Rolls, some having changed from school to school are in all probability counted twice over.

The School Attendance Ordinance of 1895 has caused a most marked improvement in the regular attendance of the children.

Most of the children leave school when 13 or 14 years of age. The boys find employment during the summer months in the peat bogs and the vegetable gardens. The girls go out to situations, or work at home.

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1895.

LOWTHER E. BRANDON, M.A.

APPENDIX C.

Stanley, Falkland Islands, April 14, 1895.

April 14, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you herewith my report for the Blue Book, 1895. I have not been able to give returns of stock for December 31st, 1895, that being an inconvenient date;

the figures I have given are to 31st March of this year.

All the sheep stations with the exception of three small islands have been visited by myself, or one of the sub-inspectors, and I have thus the advantage of personal observation upon which to base my report.

Sheep.

The number of sheep as returned in March, 1896, amount to

791,442, consisting of 314,216 males and 477,226 females.

The sheep are, generally speaking, a mixed cross-breed and have the appearance of having originally come from merino stock. Only in the case of a few stud rams is any purity found.

Lambing.

The lambing this year shows an average of 65 per cent., which is good when taking into consideration the severe weather in the spring.

Stud Sheep.

There is one recognized stud flock in the Colony from which several farmers secure their flock rams. During the year 27 Lincoln and five Cheviot rams were imported from England, these were divided amongst farm owners. The farmers would do well to import more pure blood, and establish some better foundation in their flocks.

Wool.

The clip this year is, I understand, about half a pound per sheep better than last year this must be considered most satisfactory.

Disease.

With the exception of scab there is practically no disease, and this is fast disappearing; since the Scab Ordinance has been introduced farmers have woke up to their own interests and consequently pay stricter attention to gathering and dipping their

sheep. Tetanus and scrofula are met with occasionally. Generally the health of flocks is good.

Dipping.

This is a matter which occupies the serious attention of the inspectors. In many cases the dipping-baths are too short, and the sheep are plunged in and out without being allowed to remain a sufficient time in the mixture. Occasionally, too, the dip is blamed for non-efficiency, whereas better results would be obtained if more attention were paid to proper mixing of the dip, and keeping the sheep in the bath for a sufficient time. I am, however, pleased to say this does not apply to all farmers, especially those on the West Falklands who are free from scab.

Ear Marking.

Hitherto no register of ear marks has been kept, but this matter is now being remedied.

Frozen Mutton.

The number of carcases exported in 1895 was, roughly, 19,000. I regret that for the present year there is no prospect of any being exported. His Excellency the Governor has now under his consideration the question of ascertaining how this industry can be developed, and it is to be hoped that next year will see considerable activity in this direction. From what I have seen of the sheep and the locality, we should be exporting from 50,000 to 70,000 carcases annually. I trust that all future shipments will be subject to Government inspection, and that a system of grading will be introduced. This would give security to consumers without incurring any great expense to the producer.

Shipment of Live Sheep.

I see no reason why this branch of the industry hould not be established here. Thousands of sheep are going every month from the River Plate to England, why not from the Falkland Islands? We are right on the track of homeward bound Australian and New Zealand steamers, and I feel certain that these could be induced to call and pick up deck loads of sheep. This Colony is favourably located for the purpose, as it has several fine harbours in most central and convenient situations.

Tallow

Boiling down is carried on at some six stations, three of which have most complete plants for the purpose. Some 25,000 were boiled down in 1895, but for the ensuing year this number will be largely increased as no frozen meat will be exported.

Horses.

The number of horses in the Colony are 3,250. The breed might, I think, be improved by the importation of stallions of suitable stamp. The demand for horses is not great, but the prices ruling, 151. to 201., would amply repay any outlay. Horses are particularly healthy in this Colony, and have no natural plagues such as bot-flies, &c.

FALKLAND ISLANDS. 1895.

Cattle.

Number about 6,850 head. I can only say that they are healthy. They are of no particular breed, and have no qualities to recommend them. They are apparently the remnant of the old wild cattle, most of which have been killed off for their hides. The sooner the present cattle are also removed and replaced by sheep, the better for the export trade of the Colony. A few good cattle should be kept for dairy purposes, and for the limited beef consumption of the Islands.

The Colony is eminently adapted for sheep farming and sheep farming only. It is abundantly supplied with natural grasses, no

artificial grass having ever been introduced.

Sheep farms here are exempt from many drawbacks which other countries have to contend against, such as droughts, want of facilities for transport, footrot in sheep, and last but not least rabbits. These latter are not regarded here as a pest, being only found on small islands and even there are dying off, possibly, as I understand, from some disease of the liver.

The total exports in connexion with the Stock Department are

as follows :-

***		£	S.
Wool, 4,024,500 lbs.	- 401	100,612	10
Frozen mutton, 19,432 carca	ses -	6,801	4
Sheep skins, 80,230 skins		10,028	6
Tallow, 329,900 lbs	-	2,7+9	0
Hides 1,592 -	-	796	0
Total		120,987	0

I have, &c.

JOHN T. MOWAT,

Chief Inspector of Stock.

The Hon. F. Craigie Halkett, Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 153.

FIJI.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, see Colonial Report [Annual] No. 127.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



LONDON:

PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
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1896.

[C.-7944.-5.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Co	lony.				Year.
118	Falkland Islands -				-	1893
119	Rodrigues -		-		-	"
120	Mauritius -	-			-	"
121	Straits Settlements -				-	39
122	Labuan		•	•	-	"
123	Basutoland		•	-		1893-94
124	St. Lucia -				-	1893
125	St. Helena -		-		-	"
126	Ceylon			•	-	"
127	Fiji		-		7.0 70	22
128	Grenada			•	-	"
129	Sierra Leone -	-	-	•	-	1893-94
130	British Bechuanaland	-		-	-	
131	British New Guinea	•	•	-	-	1892-3 &
					100	1893-4
132	Lagos	•	•	-	-	1893
133	British Guiana -	•		•	•	1893-94
134	Jamaica	-		•		"
135	Newfoundland -		•		-	1893
136	Gold Coast	•		•	-	"
137	Zululand			•	•	1894
138	Bermuda		•	•	•	"
139	Bahamas	•		•	*	"
140	Barbados -	•		•	-	"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	•		•	-	99
142	Malta -				•	"
143	Gambia -				-	99
144	Windward Islands -	5			-	>>
145	Trinidad and Tobago	•			•	>>
146	Gibraltar	•			-	77
147	Falkland Islands -			•	70	>>
148	Hong Kong -	•			•	"
149	Straits Settlements -					"
150	Lagos -	-	-		•	>9
151	Seychelles					1894-95
152	Basutoland	-		Sin Fo	State .	1004-00

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony	y •		Subject.
1 2 3	Gold Coast Zululand - Sierra Leone			Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -		-	Emigration.

No. 153.

Fijt. 1894.

FIJI.

[For Report for 1893 see Colonial Report (Annual) No. 127.]

ACTING GOVERNOR BERKELEY to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN. (Received September 24, 1895.)

Government House, Suva,

July 23, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith two copies of the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1894, together with a report thereon by the Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

H. S. BERKELEY.

1. REVENUE.

The Colonial revenue for the year 1894 was greater than that of any year since 1884. It amounted to 80,053l. 19s. 0d., exceeding the estimate by 6,052l. 19s. 0d. and the revenue of the previous year by 3,279l. 16s. 5d.

The receipts under each head of revenue in the past two years

have been as shown hereunder:-

Head of Revenue.	189	4.		18		
	£	s.		£	s.	d
L. Customs	37,677	6	4	36,638		1
2. Port, harbour, wharf, and lighthouse dues	4,753	18	2	4,373		7
Native taxes	18,678		0	17,436	11	0
4. Licenses, excise, and internal revenue -	8,200	0		7,223	2	1
5. Fees of court or office, payments for specific services, and reimbursements in aid.	7,057	12	9	6,639	3	6
6. Post office	1,867	12	7	1,915	3	11
7. Rent of Government property -	399	17	9	710	16	4
8. Interest	18	6	9	7	13	9
9. Miscellaneous	1,129	4	5	1,550	4	10
). Land sales	271	5	4	279		6
Total	80,053	19	0	76,774	2	7

The principal increase in the receipts of the year 1894 occurs under the head of Customs, Native Taxes, and Internal Revenue,

viz., fines, water rates, and stamp duty.

The receipts derivable from taxation, consisting of Customs duties, native taxes, license fees, and stamp duties, amounted in 1894 to 62,041l. 18s. 9d., or 77.5 per cent. of the whole revenue, as compared with 59,294l. 10s. 1d., or 77.2 per cent. of the revenue

o 88879. Wt. 20348.

Fiji. 1894. of 1893. The amount of Customs duties levied on imports during the past four years and the proportion which these amounts bear to (1) the total value of imports and (2) the total value of dutiable imports, are shown in the following statement:—

				August Mari	Propor	ction to
	Yea	r.		Customs Duties levied.	Total Value of Imports.	Value of dutiable Imports.
1891				£ s. d. 31,265 16 4	Per cent.	Per cent.
1892	- 1		-	32,424 8 11	12.8	19.93
1893				36,638 7 9	13.3	21.26
1894			•	37,674 16 7	13.2	20.91

There has been no alteration in the Customs tariff during those years.

2. EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure of the year amounted to 72,203l. 15s. 4d., being less than the revenue by 7,850l. 3s. 8d. and less than the normal expenditure of the previous year by 2,340l. 2s. 6d. A tew extraordinary items of expenditure which were not contemplated on the estimate were met. The principal of these were:—

- (1.) Erection of lighthouse on Wailagilala Island to assist the vessels of the Canadian-Australian S.S. Co.
- (2.) Subsidy to the Canadian-Australian S.S. Co. 669 7 1 from 21st July to 31st December.
- (3.) Purchase of rights in the foreshore of Suva 200 0 0 Lands.

The revenue and expenditure of the past five years is shown in the following table:—

	Yea	ır.		Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.
1890	•		-	£ s. d. 66,817 5 1	£ s. d. 60,826 6 6	£ s. d. 5,990 18 7
1891	-			71,249 18 11	67,819 17 7 Ordinary.	3,430 1 4
1892	-	-	-	71,552 15 2	67,651 12 1	3,901 3 1
1893	-	-	-	71,774 2 7	74,543 17 10 Total.	2,230 4 9
					85,981 15 1	9,207 12 6*
1804	•	-	-	80,053 19 0	72,203 15 4	7,850 3 8

^{*} Deficit owing to extraordinary expenditure.

3. Assets and Liabilities and Public Debt.

Fiji. 1894.

The year began with a floating liability of 2,001l. 11s. 9d., and the following items of public debt, viz.:—

Public debt under debenture	£ 126,600	s. 0	<i>d</i> . 0	
Public debt due to Imperial Government.	113,081	18	8	
Total	239,681	18	8	

The floating liability was extinguished during the year and its place taken by an asset of 5,911l. 18s. 6d., and at 31st December 1894 the public debt stood as follows:—

		S.	
Public debt under debenture	124,000	0	0
Public debt due to Imperial Government.	100,677	7	0
Total	224,677	7	0

The Imperial Government remitted the claim made by them in respect of expenses incurred in connection with the settlement of the German land claims, amounting to 11,364l. 6s. 7d. The amount of this remission, together with the statutory payments make up the sum of 15,004l. 11s. 8d. by which the public debt of the Colony was reduced during the year.

The public debt of the Colony was equal to 11. 16s. 10d. per

head of the population at 31st December 1894.

4. MUNICIPALITIES.

The revenue and expenditure of he two municipalities in the Colony were:—

			Reven	iue.	Expenditure		
Suva			£ 1,491	s. d. 8 7	£ 1,479	s. 3	d. 1
Levuka -		-	961	1 10	977	2	2
Total			2,452	10 5	2,456	5	3

Fist. 1894.

5. Public Works.

The expenditure on public works, exclusive of establishments, during the year was appropriated under the following heads:—

	£	8.	d.
Constructing and repairing roads -	673	19	3
Constructing and repairing wharfs -	938	1	6
Repairs and additions to Government buildings.	3,743	17	9
Repairs and extension to water supply, Suva and Levuka.	294	12	11
Botanic Station	121	17	7
Total	5,772	9	0

6. LEGISLATION.

The only substantive laws passed during the year, beyond the Appropriate Ordinances, were:—

Ordinance No. II.—"Regarding Volunteer Fire Brigades, and "to make prevision for the Protection of Life and Property "from Fire."

Ordinance No. III.—"To regulate fishing on the Reefs and in "the Tidal Waters of the Colony." This law restricts the right to fish on tribal fishing grounds to the members of each tribe and to such other persons as may obtain a license (without fee) from the Native Commissioner. The public still retain the right of fishing with hook and line or with fishtraps between any reefs or in any tidal river.

Ordinance No. V.—"To authorise the Reception and Detention "in the Colony of certain persons when brought there by "Her Majesty's Naval Officers." This enactment is meant to facilitate the removal from Pacific Islands not within Her Majesty's dominion or the jurisdiction of any civilised powers of Natives who have been guilty of crimes, outrages, or disorders. Such people when brought to the Colony will be detained in custody or under police supervision.

7. POPULATION.

The estimated population at 31st December 1894 was—

Fi.Ji. 1894.

Class of	N.	W	hites.	Cole	oured.	Т	otal.		
Population.		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Increase.	Decrease
Europeans		1,726	940	-	-		2,666	192	
Half-castes		-	- /	577	590		1,167	42	a maje
Indians -	•	- /	-	6,162	2,968		9,130	_	45
Polynesians		-	_	1,887	346		2,233	_ =	180
Rotumans		-	-	981	1,132	1	2,113	_	12
Fijians -		-	-	55,332	48,418	100	3,750	_	1,112
Others		_	NO DE V	494	314		808	270	_

The births, deaths, and marriages and the respective rates per mille were:—

Class of	Popul	lation.		Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Birth- rate.	Death- rate.	Marriage rate.
Europeans			-	70	31	33	26.25	11.62	12:37
Half-castes				57	14	9	48.84	11.99	7.71
Indians -				276	294	136	30.23	32.20	14.89
Polynesians				16	54	15	7.16	24.17	6.71
Rotumans				74	86	10	35.02	40.70	4.73
Fijians -				3,912	4,620	995	37.70	44.53	9.59
Others -				_	52		-	64.35	-

8. ECCLESIASTICAL.

The following returns are furnished by the religious missions at work in the Colony. The figures for the previous year are added:—

Wesleyan Mission.

				1
			1894.	1893.
Churches		-1	941	849
Other preaching places		-	379	475
European missionaries -		- 1	10	11
Native ministers -	-	-	65	69
Catechists	1-1-	-	58	52
Teachers	-	-	1,110	1,117
Local preachers -	RI .	-	2,018	2,062
Class leaders		-	4,636	3,680
Church members (English	and Nativ	e)	31,057	30,586
On trial for membership	-	-	4,773	5,276
Communicants		-	22	17

COLONIAL REPORTS .- ANNUAL.

Fiji. 1894.

Wesleyan Mission—continued.

			1894.	1893.
Catechumens			10,450	7,417
Day schools	-		1,942	1,894
Day school scholars -	13.7		36,158	37,051
Day school teachers -	- 1 - 1 - 1	-	2,382	2,381
Sabbath schools -	-	- 101	1,665	1,672
Sabbath school scholars		-	36,709	36,819
Sabbath school teachers		-	2,569	2,435
Adherents	11.	-	98,297	98,959

Roman Catholic Mission.

European missionaries	-	26	23	
Churches and chapels	-	83	81	
Training institutions (European)	B. B. C.	Bathane 1911	1	
Traning institutions (Native) -	-	3	3	
Native teachers	-	187	182	
European sisters	-	22	20	
Adherents		about 9,580	about 9,700	
Schools for Natives	-	143	145	
Schools for Europeans -	-	3	3	
Native scholars	-	2,010	1,980	
European scholars	-	132	124	
European teachers	-	6	3	

9. EDUCATION.

The revenue and expenditure of the two school boards during the year 1894 were:—

				Revenue.	Expenditure.
Suva School Board	•	***************************************	-	£ s. d. 679 1 6	£ s. d. 813 11 0
Levuka School Board				517 14 9	519 7 3

Government grants, amounting to 632l. 8s. 1d., were received by those boards in 1894. The number on the roll in the board schools was 205; the average attendance, 168.

In the three Roman Catholic schools there was an average

attendance of 112 with a roll of 160 pupils.

Seventy-three native youths were in residence at the Government technical school. A good deal of the time was occupied during the year in removing the school from the Island of Vanua Levu to a site near Suva, whither the buildings have been transported and re-erected by the pupils.

311

The education of the native population is in the hands of the Wesleyan and Roman Catholic missions, from whom the following returns are received:—

F1J1. 1894.

Denomination.	No. of Schools.	Average Attendance
Wesleyan	1,942	36,158
Roman Catholic	143	2,010
Total	2,085	38,168

10. IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The value of imports, exports, and total trade of the Colonv during the past four years is shown in the following statement. The figures do not include bullion and specie:—

	Year.		Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.	
1891	7		£ 253,049	£ 474,334	£ 727,382	
1892		-	253,586	434,791	688,377	
1893			276,398	355,632	632,030	
894	- 3		285,981	581,652	867,633	

The value of the total trade of the year 1894 is greater than that of any other year of the Colony's history. It exceeds that of the previous year by 235,603l., and that of the year 1883—the highest point previously touched—by 65,040l.

The total trade of the Colony during the year 1894 was divided as follows:—

Country.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade	Per-centage of Total Trade.
	£	£	£	
New South Wales -	203,074	46,659	249,733	28.783
Victoria	8,570	130,829	139,399	16.066
New Zealand	49,249	339,329	388,578	44.786
Tasmania	8		8	.0009
Queensland	2,120		2,120	•244
Total Australasian Colonies	263,022	516,817	779,838	89.8799
Azores		5,724	5,724	.659
Canada	800	590	1,390	160
Ellice Group	1,860	4	1,864	•214
France		6,587	6,587	•759
Futuna	1,153	14	1,167	134
Hawaiian Islands -	125	52	177	.020

Fiji. 1894.

Trade of the Colony-continued.

Country.		Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.	Per-centage of Total Trade.
		£	£	£	
India	-	6,748		6,748	•777
Japan	-	846		846	•097
New Caledonia -	-	787		787	.090
Portugal -	-		28,861	28,861	3.326
Russia	-		8,802	8,802	1.014
Samoa	-	4,576	146	4,721	•545
Solomon Islands -	-		120	120	.0149
Spain	-		3,027	3,027	•360
Tonga	-	2	67	69	•008
United Kingdom -	-	-	10,809	10,809	1.245
United States -	-	2,145		2,145	•247
Wallis Island -	-	3,918	32	3,950	•455
Total -	-	285,981	581,652	867,633	

From the foregoing statement it will be seen that 89.88 per cent. of the total trade of the Colony was with the Australasian Colonies. The bulk of the imports are received from New South Wales. These imports include British goods which, except when a vessel from the United Kingdom happens to visit the Colony, are imported through one or other of the Australasian Colonies,

but principally through New South Wales.

The principal imports consist of drapery (52,606l.), machinery (23,264l.), hardware (15,808l.), coal (15,579l.), breadstuffs (15,186l.), meats (13,716l.), rice (10,195l.), oils (6,197l.), produce (6,699l.), timber (5.958l.), oats (5,170l.), live stock (7,754l.), iron (5,082l.), galvanized iron and goods (4,940l.), bags and sugar mats (6,518l.), leatherware (3,432l.), boots and shoes (3,841l.), glassware and crockery (3,630l.), pickles and oilstores (3,359l.), stationery (3,180l.), spirits (3,230l.).

The three principal Colonial products are sugar, fruit, and copra. The exports of these products during the past four years is shown

hereunder:-

			Sug	ar.	Fruit.	Copra (Fij	Copra (Fijian only).		
	Ye	ar.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
1891			Tons. 20,471	£ 327,526	£ 61,573	Tons. 5,019	£ 46,431		
1892			18,883	302,133	62,564	5,901	49,422		
1893			15,389	246,231	36,599	4,790	42,235		
1894			27,265	436,245	49,115	5,833	57,261		

The export of sugar was greater in 1894 than in any previous year. In 1893 fruit receded from the second place to the third, and still retains that position, although the export has improved. The diminution is owing to competition from Queensland, bad

markets in Australia, and the prevalence of a disease among the plants in the Colony. There are prospects, however, of a fresh start being made in this industry; but the exports for the year 1895 will be very low owing to the effects of the storm on 7th January.

WLIT. 1894. 313

The export of copra in 1894 was well up to the average.

The next export in importance at the present time is Colonial distilled spirits, of which 106,920 gallons were exported in 1893, and 133,971 gallons in 1894, valued at 13,365l. and 16,746l. respectively.

The other principal items of export in 1894 consisted of:

Cocoanuts, 9,984 sacks	-	-	valued at	2,496
Peanuts, 130 tons	-1		,,	2,435
Wool, $12\frac{1}{2}$ tons -		- 1	"	1,161
Beche-de-mer, $16\frac{3}{20}$ tons	-	-	99	808
Desiccated cocoanut, 14½	tons	-	,,	801
Cotton, $19\frac{6}{20}$ tons-	-	-	,,	741

Minor exports consist of arrowroot, cotton seed, ginger, angora, hair, herbs, hides, mats molasses, pearlshell, rice, sandal-wood, turtle shell, tea (2051.) tobacco, turtles, vanilla, yams, yagona (Macro piper methysticum).

The prevailing tendency appears to be in the direction of concentrating attention on the major products-principally sugar—to the exclusion of the minor items.

The total value of the minor products exported during the past four years is-

				£
1891	-	-	-	21,746
1892		-	- 1-	20,352
1893	-			15,887
1894		-		11,513

These figures show a distinct falling off. This is possibly due to the belief that in order to be remunerative, tropical products must be cultivated on a large scale.

11. NAVIGATION.

The number and tonnage of merchant vessels entered at the ports of entry during each of the past four years are shown hereunder viz.:-

Year.		Stea	m Vessels.	Sailir	ng Vessels.	Total.				
		ear.		47	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage
1891 -			1 4	-	68	57,859	33	11,417	101	69,276
1892 -					63	55,307	28	16,137	91	69,444
1893 -		•			71	64,710	21	10,721	92	75,431
1894 -					96	115,476	39	13,186	135	128,662

Fiji. 1894. The increase in the number and tonnage of steamers is due mainly to the fact that steamers of the Canadian-Australian line have called regularly at Suva throughout the year.

The nationality of the vessels visiting the Colony is shown in the following table:—

Nationality	7	1	891.	1	892.	1	893.	1894.		
11000000000		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
British -		88	62,873	78	62,498	79	68,421	124	120,716	
American -	-	5	1,039	3	1,368	2	429	4	3,255	
Danish -	-	-	-	1	474	-	-	. 1	618	
German -	-	2	1,546	2	1,044	3	2,002	-	-	
Italian -	-	_	- 4	-		-	-	-1	879	
Japanese -	-	_		-			-	1	1,169	
Norwegian -	-	6	3,818	5	3,334	5	3,174	3	1,971	
Tongan -	J.	_	· -	1	53	1	59	1	59	
Nicaraguan		-	_	1	673	2	1,346		4	
Total-	-	101	69,276	91	69,444	92	75,431	135	128,662	

The interinsular trade of the Colony is conducted by a subsidized steamer and by small sailing vessels.

The number and tonnage of such vessels holding seagoing certificates from the Fiji Marine Board during the year 1894 was:—

				No.	Tons.	
European owned vessels		K		55	749	
Native owned vessels	-	-	-	141	1,046	
Total -	-			196	1,795	

12. LAND AND AGRICULTURE.

The estimated acreage of the Colony is 4,953,920 acres. The acreage granted to Europeans is 422,998, leaving 4,530,922 acres ungranted. The area estimated to be under cultivation by Europeans is 41,031.

This area is under crop as follows:-

				Acres.
Peanuts		-		153
Bananas	-			1,401
Pineapples	-			129
Beans	-			17
Cocoanuts	-		-	18,603
Maize	-	775	-	299

13

Land and Agriculture—continued.

FIJI. 1894. 315

					Acres.
Sugar-cane	o Law	3 1 4	1.40	-	19,382
Tobacco	1 10-36	- Julia			49
Rice		-	THE VERY	-	78
Limes	2000	-	The state of	-	44
Yams	1		do string.	-	138
Tea	4	-	Property of	-	410
Sisal hemp		_	- 1	-	160
Potatoes, ku	imalas,	&c.			55
Other produ		6-ja	The Ton	4.7	113
Total	-		anniques	1	41,031

The area under cocoanuts and sugar-cane show an increase. The areas under the other products appear to have diminished.

The livestock owned by Europeans is returned as follows:-

Horses	-	- 1	-	1,538
Cattle	-		-	9,386
Sheep	-	-	4.	4,130
Goats			_	2,680

13. FACTORIES.

The manufactories of the Colony are reputed to consist of nine sugar mills with a nominal daily out-put of 123 tons of dried sugar two tea factories, two desiccated cocoanut factories, and 14 shipbuilding yards.

14. HOSPITAL.

Eight hundred and seventy-one cases were admitted to the colonial hospital during the year. 919 cases were treated of which 527 were discharged cured, 258 relieved and 20 not improved. The deaths were 52 in number, equal to 5.65 per cent. of the cases.

Of these cases 32 were Europeans, of whom five died, two from old age, one from sarcoma of brain, one from meningitis, and one from phthisis.

15. METEOROLOGY.

The rainfall of the year at Suva amounted to 111.80 inches, a few inches over the average of the past six years.

The absolute maximum temperature registered at Suva was 93° Fahr. on 26th February and 5th March. The absolute minimum was 59° Fahr. on 25th June.

The mean minimum temperature for the year was 72° Fahr. the mean maximum 84° Fahr.

F131. 1894.

16. COMMUNICATION.

During the year there was steam communication with Sydney three times a month, with Melbourne once, with Auckland (direct) once, and during a portion of the year once a month viâ Tonga and Samoa, and with Vancouver, B.C. once monthly. The usual number of irregular steamers also ran during the sugar season.

17. POSTAL.

The following statement exhibits the estimated number of letters dealt with by the Post Office during the year 1894:—

	Internal.	nternal. United Kingdom.			Other Places.	
		From	То	From	То	
Letters	229,625	8,827	8,746	54,935	46,901	349,034
Post-cards		-	-			
Newspapers	144,835	35,401	2,569	91,844	7,775	282,424
Book packets, samples, and circulars.	19,803	1,348	636	6,653	2,453	30,893
Parcels	100 - 10	291	92			383
Telegrams ·	-	-	-	-	-	
	Despat	ched.		Rece	ived.	
(Including registered	5,0	15		4,83	38).	

18. GENERAL.

A lighthouse was built on the Island of Wailagilala (latitude 16° 45′, longitude 179° 6′, west), from which a fixed white light was displayed after 29th March. This light was erected for the convenience principally of the Canadian-Australian line of steamers, and enables vessels to enter or leave the Group by the Nanuku passage at night. The light is exhibited from an open wooden frame structure, the height of which is 102 feet from base to vane. The centre of the lantern is 97 feet 6 inches above high water, and the light may be seen for about 16 miles from a ship's deck.

In May, an intertribal disturbance occurred among the mountain towns of the Island of Vanua Levu, which was suppressed by His Excellency the Governor with the armed native constabulary aided by volunteers from the chief town of the province in which the trouble took place.

The disturbers of the peace sustained a loss of some 10 lives. There was no loss of life on the side of the Government party.

The leaders in this trouble were subsequently captured, tried before the Supreme Court at Suva, and sentenced. Two of them ultimately suffered the extreme penalty of the law, and the others were sent to prison.

Fiji. 1894.

This is the only disturbance with loss of life that has occurred during the past 18 years. Full details of the matter are published in Blue-Book No. C. 7679.

J. STEWART, Acting Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 165.

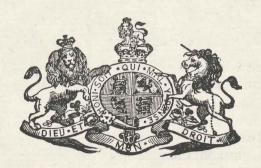
GAMBIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894 see No. 143 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

June 1896.



LONDON:

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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.		Colony.				Year.
130	British Bechuanaland	-	-	-		1893-4
131	British New Guinea		•			1892-3 & 1893-4
132	Lagos	-			-	1893
133	British Guiana -	400	-		-	1893-4
134	Jamaica	- 4		-	-	,,,
135	Newfoundland -	4	1		-	1893
136	Gold Coast	- 1	-	-	-	>>
137	Zululand			-x5	-	1894
138	Bermuda	-		-		"
139	Bahamas		•	-	-	,,,
140	Barbados	•	-	•	-	"
141	Turks and Caicos Isla	nds -	-			"
142	Malta			-		99
143	Gambia	7. L	- 7		-	,,,
144	Windward Islands -				-	22
145	Trinidad and Tobago	700 143	-		-	99
146	Gibraltar			. /	-	99
147	Falkland Islands -	-			-	22
148	Hong Kong -				-	>>
149	Straits Settlements -	•			-	"
150	Lagos		-	-	-	"
151	Seychelles			-	-	,,,
152	Basutoland				-	1894-5
153	Fiji			-	-	1894
154	St. Helena -			-	-	>>
155	Ceylon			-	-	>>
156	Mauritius		-		-	>>
157	Labuan					"
158	Gold Coast	-	1 2	17.		99
159	British Guiana -					>>
160	Sierra Leone -		-	-		"
161	Jamaica		-	-		1894-5
162	British Honduras -			-	-	1894
163	British Bechuanaland		-	-	-	1894-5
164	Newfoundland -		-			1894

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	. Colony.		Subject.		
1 2 3 4 5	Gold Coast Zululand - Sierra Leone Canada - Bahamas -		Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany. Emigration. Sisal Industry.		

No. 165.

GAMBIA.

(For Report for 1894 see No. 143.)

GAMBIA. 1895.

Administrator LLEWELYN to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Bathurst,

SIR, April 6, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to forward, in duplicate, the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1895, together with my report on the same.

> I have, &c. R. B. LLEWELYN, Administrator.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1895.

1. I am sorry that it is not in my power to give a favourable report of the prosperity of the Colony during the year 1895.

2. It became evident, early in the year, that the yield of the staple export of ground nuts would be far below the estimate, and finally the result showed that the crop was only ten thousand tons instead of the estimate of fifteen, and not quite half the average of the preceding four years.

3. The cause of this misfortune is to be attributed to unfavour-

able seasons and bad seed nuts.

4. To remedy the latter, the Government purchased about 120 tons of fresh seed nuts in Senegal, and distributed it as far as possible throughout the Protectorate, on loan to the planters.

5. I may here add that these people have faithfully kept their agreement with the Government and, at the time of my writing this, the whole quantity has been practically repaid, and, I may

add, cheerfully.

6. It is difficult to foresee what can be done to advance the agricultural industries of a territory in which for eight months of the year there is not a drop of rain, but the Government is trying in every direction to induce the inhabitants to venture on some other cultivation than that of ground nuts.

7. The Botanical Station at Kotri is showing that Liberian coffee will grow, and the fibre extracted from a rafia, of which there is an inexhaustible supply up the river, has been pronounced by a firm of brokers in London to be the best specimen yet sent

home from the West Ccast of Africa.

8. Owing to the opening up of Kommbo and the freedom now enjoyed by the inhabitants of that district, a great impetus has been given to the rubber trade, and the exports last year amounted to 394,165 lbs. valued at 18,879l., which are the largest figures that I can trace for this product. I am glad to report that the

Wt. 20348. o 92050.

GAMBIA. 1895. briskness shown in this trade last year has continued up to the

present time and is apparently increasing.

9. The gross revenue for the year was 20,561*l*.; expenditure, 28,867*l*.; value of the exports, 89,000*l*., including 4,500*l*. specie; value of imports, 97,000*l*., including 13,500*l*. in specie, all of which figures, except the specie ones, are, I am sorry to say, considerably below the average, and can only be compared with the bad years of 1885-7.

- 10. On account of this decline in trade it became necessary to draw upon the surplus funds of the Colony, and even then there remained a deficit at the end of the year of 1,826*l.*, a comparatively small amount to be cleared off when the average revenue for the four previous years had amounted to 30,000*l.*, and the revenue and expenditure for 1896 were both estimated in December 1895 at less than 26,000*l.*, a result, however, which I now fear will not be attained.
- 11. Hopes have been always entertained that, with the establishment of peace and a civilised form of government in the Protectorate, the prosperity of the Colony would advance materially, but, owing to a run of continued unfavourable seasons for agriculture, the changes that have taken place by the establishment of the Protectorate have not yet had a fair chance of showing whether the general hopes of the Government and inhabitants will be realised.

12. It is pleasing to be able to record that the progress of peace and civilised government in the Protectorate has been most marked.

- 13. The natives have readily paid the Hut Tax, or "Yard Tax," as it is called, of 1s. a hut imposed for the first time by an Ordinance passed in March 1895, and in every respect have shown the greatest desire to carry out the orders of the Travelling Commissioners.
- 14. I have recently travelled throughout the whole of the district on the South Bank, about a hundred miles in length; through the greater part of Kommbo and a small part of Fogni, and everywhere the improvements in the towns and roads are most marvellous, and there is general contentment.

15. The inhabitants, even the wild Jolas in Fogni, were glad to see me, and repeatedly expressed their appreciation of the changes

the white-man government was working for them.

16. I attended two native courts and heard three cases tried, all charges of abduction, where in one case a fine of 4l. was inflicted and paid, in another the case was very properly dismissed, and in the third the offender, who could not pay the fine, was in default sent to prison in Bathurst for five weeks. Another case occurred, at which I was not present, when the headman of a town brought a charge against one of his people for refusing to obey an order given to him. He was fined 4l., half of which he paid, and the members of the court subsequently begged me to relieve the offender of the moiety, as he had begged their pardon, and I readily acceded to their wishes. I mention these details as interesting, and showing that these native courts, which are only

just starting, may possibly be of great service hereafter; but nobody realises more than I do that they require constant careful

watching, and their progress will be slow for many years.

17. A novel case was brought to my notice when I was thanked by a head Chief for sending him some coral; the explanation of the matter being, as I subsequently found out, that even head Chiefs in the Gambia Protectorate are not clear from receiving circulars and patterns. Some enterprising firm in England, who deserve success, had sent a circular with a sample of coral to this head Chief and he, not understanding one word of the circular, came to the conclusion that I had sent him a present of a piece of coral. I record this as the first instance of a circular being received by a Native Mandingo in the Gambia Protectorate, and perhaps as a sign of social progress. I do not wish to advocate that circulars or advertisements of all sorts, such, for instance, as those referring to coals or wine, should be sent indiscriminately to all the people, nor would they do any good, but I am not certain that illustrated catalogues of agricultural implements, hand-ploughs, corn mills, axes, tools, light carts or waggons for oxen, &c. might not start some of the people inquiring about such articles, and, if advertisers would send out a dozen copies to the officer administering the Government, he would know where and how to distribute them, and they would be more likely to bear fruit than if sent direct to a Native head Chief.

18. In the Protectorate there was general peace and order, but I regret that in Bathurst there was a serious disturbance in the middle of November between the civil police and the inhabitants of Bathurst, who supported them, and the frontier armed police force, which had been recruited and embodied early in the

year from the tribes in the hinterland of Sierra Leone.

19. It soon became evident that these men were not amenable to discipline, and their disbandment was forced upon the Government

by the *émeute* in November.

20. The detachment of the West India Regiment which had been stationed here since July 1891 was withdrawn in February 1895, and I hope no armed force will be considered as necessary again for ordinary garrison duty in Bathurst, which seems to be

quieter without the presence of soldiery.

21. The health of Bathurst during the year was good. Malarial fever was only fatal in one case, and the immunity which the community enjoyed during the rainy season from fatal fevers is attributed by the Registrar to the exceptionally heavy rains that fell between the first week in July and the first week in September (55 inches in 60 days), accompanied by frequent tornadoes, and also to the active vigilance of the Board of Health in the discovery and removal of causes tending to prejudice the public health.

22. Early on the morning of the 26th of August a most terrific thunderstorm hung over the town of Bathurst for three-quarters of an hour, accompanied by a deluge of rain which flooded the whole town and did not subside until the tide fell in the river. Fifteen inches of rain fell in 27 hours, and the storm was generally admitted to have been the most severe one ever experienced here.

GAMBIA. 1895. GAMBIA. 1895. I attach a copy of the usual comparative and annual meteorological returns.

23. The population of the Colony proper is not increasing, and probably the check that has been given to the introduction of alien children, who I am afraid were often purchased, will keep the figures even more stationary. In 1891, there were 378 alien children on the register, but the figures have now dwindled down to 99.

24. It is difficult to estimate the population in the Protectorate, but a rough estimate based on the number of huts in those parts of the Protectorate visited by commissioners, which is about two-thirds of the whole of the Gambia Protectorate, would give a population of about 75,000, and I think the population of the whole is, at the lowest estimate, 100,000.

25. The Mahommedan system of a plurality of wives, the custom of purchasing as wives girls from their parents, and the practice of prolonged suckling by mothers of infants, together with want of care, all tend to retard a very large annual increase in the

population.

26. Much interesting work remains to be done in the Protectorate, and it is impossible to foretell at this early stage what will be the condition of the country in a few years to come; but I hope, as everything looks so promising, that the efforts of the Government to establish law and order will not be in vain, and that all who have laboured in this good work will be gratified by the results in the future.

R. B. LLEWELYN.

4th April 1896.

COMPARATIVE RAINFALL, COLONY OF THE GAMBIA.

Mor	nth		1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
January			•01		•02	_	_
February		-	•16		-		
March		-					
April	- 00	-		.01	•40	.07	
May -		-	.53	1.38	2.16		
Tune -		-	4.67	3.05	3.29	5.33	0.86
July -	2100	-	7.42	14.89	20.57	16.54	12.00
August	-	-	18.84	22.65	30.57	18.64	36.63
September	-	-	19.81	4.76	13.00	13.35	12.34
October	-	-	1.97	4.39	7 • 33	1.29	2.95
November	-	-		1000	•15	•64	2.08
December		-	3,0		•40	1 La-q	-
		data.	53.41	51.13	77.89	55.86	66.86

Average, 61.03.

R. M. FORDE, Colonial Surgeon.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, 1895.

Average for month at 7 a.m.		Max	at 3 p.m.	ade	Minimum in shade at 7 a.m.			R	Rainfall in inches.					
Mont	hs.		Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Dew point.	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.	Total.	Maximum.	Date.
January		-	67.5	60.9	55.4	72.	62.5	64.2	66*	58*	63.2	_	-	_
February -		-	68.7	64.9	61.9	93.	63.	73.	68*	58.	64.2	_	_	_
March -		-	67.7	62.8	58.8	99•	72.5	78.8	64.5	60.	62.	-	-	-
April -		-	68*	64.7	58*	94*	72.5	76.3	68*	61.	63.8	-	-	_
May .		-	71.4	67.	63.6	88.2	71.5	77.8	69.	62.	65°	_	_	-
June -		-	76.7	72.5	69.5	87.5	77.5	82*	74.	66.5	70.4	0.86	0.45	20-6-95
July -		-	78.3	74.5	72.8	90.	81.2	85*	77.5	70.	74.	12.00	2.22	8-7-95
August -		-	76.	74.4	73.2	87.	78.5	83*	77.5	69*	69.8	36.63	11.93	25-8-95
September			77.	75.	71.6	89.5	80.2	86.	79.	70°	73	12.34	3.27	6-9-95
October -		-	79.	76*	73.9	92.5	85*	88*	78.5	71.	75.8	2.95	0.81	7-10-95
November		-	75.	70.	66*4	91.5	77.5	86*	77.	66.5	71.	2.08	2.06	19-11-95
December -		-	69.9	61.3	54.6	93.5	83*	87.3	73.	71.5	66.7	_		_

Total rainfall for 1895,-66.86 nches.

R. M. FORDE, Colonial Surgeon.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 171.

GIBRALTAR.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 146 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

July 1896.



LONDON:

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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title-page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.			Year.
138	Bermuda			1894
139	Bahamas			,,
140	Barbados		-	"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands -		-	"
142	Malta		-	,,
143	Gambia		•	"
144	Windward Islands		-	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago -		-	>>
146	Gibraltar	-	-	"
147	Falkland Islands	•	-	99
148	Hong Kong		-	99
149	Straits Settlements		-	99
150	Lagos	-	-	99
151	Seychelles	-	-	22
152	Basutoland		-	1894-5
153	Fiji		-	1894
154	St. Helena		-	>>
155	Ceylon	-	-	"
156	Mauritius	-	-	, ,,
157	Labuan	ar and	10	>>
158	Gold Coast	•	-	"
159	British Guiana			"
160	Sierra Leone		-	"
161	Jamaica -	•	-	1894-5
162	British Honduras	•	-	1894
163	British Bechuanaland		-	1894-5
164	Newfoundland		-	1894
165	Gambia	•	-	"
166	Bermuda	-		,,
167	Leeward Islands			1004 =
168	British New Guinea	•	-	1894-5
169	Zululand		•	1895
170	Sierra Leone			99

MISCELLANEOUS.

To.	Colo	Colony. Subject.			
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.	
2	Zululand -			Forests.	
3	Sierra Leone			Geology and Botany.	
4	Canada -			Emigration.	
5	Bahamas		-	Sisal Industry.	
6	Hong Kong	-	-	Bubonic Plague.	

No. 171.

GIBRALTAR. 1895.

GIBRALTAR.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 146.)

Sir R. BIDDULPH to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Sir, Gibraltar, June 11, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a report by the Colonial

Secretary, together with the Blue Book for the year 1895.

2. The receipts for the year exceeded the expenditure by no less than Ptas. 162,926, that is, more than one-tenth. This has enabled us to add about 4,000l. to our investments, and also to meet out of current revenue the demands made for drainage works, which

would otherwise have had to be charged to a loan.

3. I regret to find that there has been a considerable decrease in the amount of shipping that has used the port, that is, the successive increase which took place in the years 1893 and 1894 has received a check, the total tonnage being less than in the year 1893, though greater than in 1892. It is to be observed that the falling off was not so great in British ships as in foreign ships, since the tonnage of the former was greater than that in 1893, though less than that in 1894. Thus the tonnage of British ships for the years 1892, 1893, and 1894 was between 76 and 78 per cent. of the whole, but in the year 1895 it was over 86 per cent.

4. I believe that the measures which are in progress for providing a sheltered harbour for steamers to coal in cannot fail to attract more vessels to the port. During the past year measures were taken for removing the wreck of the "Mount Olivet," an iron steamer which foundered in the anchorage in 1890, and has since been a source of danger and inconvenience to the shipping. A temporary diminution of the space for anchorage having been caused by the Admiralty works now in progress, this removal has

proved to be a great convenience at the present moment.

5. The general health of Gibraltar was very good during the year 1895, and there was a remarkably small amount of fever during the hot weather. The rainfall during the preceding season 1894-5 was very large, having been only exceeded three times in the last 100 years, viz., in 1796-7, 1854-5, and 1891-2.

6. The Colonial Secretary's Report deals with all other topics of interest, and there is, therefore, no necessity for my alluding to

them.

I have, &c.
ROBERT BIDDULPH,
General and Governor.

GIBRALTAR. 1895.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1895.

REVENUE.

The Revenue for 1895 amounted to Ptas. 1,548,201, or Ptas. 32,218 less than that for the previous year, which came to Ptas. 1,580,419. In 1894, however, sums amounting to Ptas. 74,146, which had been disbursed from Colonial Revenues in previous years on works connected with the water supply of Gibraltar, were recovered from the War Department and the Sanitary Commissioners, so that the receipts in that year from ordinary sources of revenue only amounted to Pesetas 1,506,273, or Ptas. 41,928 less than they yielded in 1895.

The heads of Revenue which gave increases of over Ptas. 2,000

were the following:

and at our the same	Design of the	g had	I	ncrease of Pta	s.
Duty on spirits impor	ted -	ask :		13,882	
,, on malt liquors				2,445	
Tavern licenses			-	2,476	
Postage and Money C	rder commis	ssion	-	41,609	
Sale of revenue stamp	os -	-		3,125	
Fees on documents	connected	with	landed		
property -			-	4,026	
Savings bank profits	•		- 1	16,957	
Hospital fees -			-	4,744	
North Front rents		-		5,726	
House rents -		-		2,905	
Miscellaneous		-		2,288	
	- No. 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1				

The increase in consumption of spirits and malt liquors is stated to be due to the large number of foreign workmen taken on the harbour works during the year, and to these works, which put in circulation large sums of money, are also partly attributable the increases in Money Order and Savings Bank business. The receipts for postage were also swelled by the purchase by collectors of large stocks of stamps which were about to be withdrawn from issue. The other increases are casual fluctuations and call for no special remarks.

Decreases exceeding Ptas. 2,000 are shown by the following Heads of Revenue, viz.:—

The state of the s	Decrease of Pt	as.
Duty on wines imported -	- 3,359	
Storage of ,, ,,	- 2,169	
Port dues on vessels arriving -	- 32,231	
Bills of health	- 2,420	
Hulk licenses	- 3,347	
Government telegraph service -	- 4,333	
Slaughter house fees	- 2,438	
Ground rents -	- 4,358	
Rent of Government property -	- 2,588	

The only serious decrease is that due to the smaller number of Gibraltar. vessels calling here, and this is reported on under the head of shipping.

EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure for 1895 was Ptas. 1,385,275, being Ptas. 131,100 less than that of the previous year. But in 1894 there was a special payment of Pesetas 78,000 for property acquired by the Colonial Government, and, excluding this, the year 1895 showed an economy in public expenditure of Ptas. 53,100 over the preceding year.

The following Departments and Services showed the increases

stated below, viz.:-

			Ptas.
Colonial Secretary's Departm	nent -		13,147
Police	-	-	2,287
Colonial Hospital -		10 -	4,394
Pensions -	Section 1 - Inc	Edd.	8,777
Public Works recurrent	r-10,01 /1-11	4 · ·	2,949

The increase in the Colonial Secretary's Department is due to the transfer to that Department of the charge of Crown Property, and that in the Police to the extra constables to keep order among the largely increased number of workmen entering the gates daily. The hospital expenditure was raised by the large number of accident cases brought for treatment, but these are paying patients, being chiefly from the New Mole Works. The increase in expenditure is therefore balanced by the increased receipts shown under the heading of Revenue. Pensions were increased by the retirement of officers in connection with the amalgamation of the Port and Treasury Departments, and the increase is more than made up by the saving in cost of administration.

The departments and heads of service which showed a

reduction in cost of administration were as follows:-

the second section of the second section is a second section of the secti	Ptas.
Colonial Treasury and Port Department	- 40,140
Post Office	- 14,166
Police Magistrate's Office	- 3,376
Lunatic Asylum	- 4,658
Colonial Engineer's Department -	- 3,167
Public Works Extraordinary -	- 2,155

The saving in the Treasury and Port Department is due to reduction of staff on amalgamation, but against this must be set the cost of the Crown Lands Branch Office, about 12,000 Ptas. which is merely transferred to another Department, and also the increase in pensions owing to compulsory retirement of officers on amalgamation. In the Post Office the saving is due to lower contracts for the carriage of mails, and in the other departments it is due to reduction of staff.

GIBRALTAR. 1895.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The statement furnished by the Treasurer places the balance of assets over liabilities at Ptas. 422,141, as compared with Ptas. 269,924 on 31st December 1894. The increase is mainly due to the investment of Pesetas 105,432 in the past year, and to the cash balances in the Colonial Treasury, and with the Post Office and the Crown Agents, which are together Ptas. 43,737 in excess of those held on 31st December 1894.

With regard to the liability shown as salary due to Major Tulloch, Consulting Engineer of the Drainage Works, which is given as Ptas. 19,525, it may be well to explain that this salary nad been charged to the Drainage Works Account, but, the colonial revenue being liable to refund the same under the terms of Major Tulloch's appointment, it is shown in the return as a liability, and it has since been repaid to the Drainage Works Account.

There is no public debt. The debt of the Sanitary Commissioners secured on a General Sanitary Purposes Rate, stood at Ptas. 1,192,000; their total revenue during the year amounted to Ptas. 742,725, and their total expenditure to Ptas. 679,84.

SHIPPING.

Vessels entered and cleared.

		Num	ber.	Tonr	nage.	Crews.		
Vessels.		1894.	1895.	1894.	1895.	1894.	1895.	
British steam ships -		6,366	5,952	7,571,910	7,281,251	207,166	200,545	
British sailing ships -	-	421	482	23,859	41,298	1,924	2,484	
Total British ships		6,787	6,444	7,595,769	7,322,549	209,090	203,029	
Foreign steam ships	-	2,509	1,859	2,170,532	1,675,708	87,804	66,346	
Foreign sailing ships -	-	955	861	74,706	79,999	5,634	5,489	
Total Foreign ships		3,464	2,720	2,245,238	1,755,707	93,438	71,925	
Total vessels	-	10,251	9,164	9,841,007	9,078,256	302,528	274,954	
Decrease in 1895 -	-	1,0	87	762	751	28,	574	

It is impossible to regard so serious a falling off without concern, but there is no reason to anticipate that it shows a loss of trade which is beyond our power to regain. One of the causes is unquestionably the competition of Algiers as a coaling port. In the Report for 1895 of the Chamber of Commerce of Gibraltar the directors observe, that "the returns of the coal trade show a decrease of 6,000 tons in 1895 compared with 1894, and there

" is no denying the fact that owners are sending their steamers to "Algiers in preference to this port owing to the greater facilities

" which the former affords for bunkering steamers."

They add "until steamers can coal here in a sheltered harbour "the directors feel that the coaling trade will not revive." Another cause of the diminution in the number of vessels calling has been the depression of trade both general and local, the import trade through Linea having been closed since the end of 1894. Happily the general trade has slightly revived, and measures are contemplated, both with regard to the local trade with Spain and for providing a sheltered harbour, which will, it is hoped, offer the advantages desired.

GIBRALTAR. 1895.

7

EXCHANGE.

The rate of exchange has been much fluctuating and has covered a wide range. The highest rate during the year was Ptas. 30.76 to the £ sterling and the lowest, Ptas. 27.08. The quarterly Government rates were as follows:—

					Incre	ease of Ptas	
March quarter				Deplar	-	28.70	
June do		-	-	-	-	27.43	
September,	-	-	-	-	-	28.23	
December,		-	-	-	-	29.31	

The rapid fluctuations led to a good deal of speculation, but, on the whole, after the steady fall for the last few years in the value of the peseta, any change is welcome which holds out a possibility of its some day rising above the ptas. 29.50 to the £ sterling, which has come to be regarded as its normal value.

ESTABLISHMENTS.

In January 1895, Mr. John Bennett was appointed Chief of Police in succession to the late Mr. William Seed.

Police in succession to the late Mr. William Seed.

In March, Chief Justice Sir H. Burford-Hancock was transferred to Jamaica, and the vacancy was filled by appointment of Mr. Stephen Gatty.

In May, the post of coroner, which had become vacant on the death of Mr. Seed was conferred on Mr. G. F. Cornwell, Q.C.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Towards the end of the year the works in connection with the new drainage system were opened. When finished, the whole of the sewerage of Gibraltar, which now discharges into the bay in front of the town and at Rosia, will be conducted to an outfall at Europa Point, where the strong currents of the Straits will carry it clear of the Rock. Advisable as this change was beforehand for

GIBRALTAR 1895. ordinary sanitary reasons, it has now become an absolute necessity in view of the works going on to convert the portion of the bay in front of the town into an enclosed harbour. No other public works of importance were undertaken by the Government, as the existing public buildings and institutions are sufficient for the needs of the place, and only the usual expenditure was incurred in keeping them in order.

LEGISLATION.

One Order in Council and 24 Ordinances were passed during the year, and are enumerated below. Of these, the Bankruptcy Order in Council has brought local law into accordance with English practice, and under this Order the jurisdiction in Bankruptcy has been transferred to the Supreme Court. Of the Ordinances, Nos. 1 and 5 to 20, inclusive, were passed to adapt to local conditions Imperial Acts which it was thought might prove useful; No. 2 was intended to bring under proper control an old and useful charitable fund, the conditions of which had never been clearly defined; and Nos. 3, 4, and 23, were passed to remove certain defects which had been found in the working of the laws which they amend.

The Sanitary Loans Ordinance (No. 21) enables the Commissioners to raise loans on terms more satisfactory both to themselves and to the investors, and the first loans raised under this Ordinance

have been successful.

The Electric Lighting Ordinance vests in the local government the necessary powers to introduce this system of lighting, the installation of which will shortly be begun.

No. 24 confers patent rights on a certain invention.

The laws passed in 1895 were:-

The Bankruptcy Order in Council, Gibraltar, 1894.

1. The Uniforms Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.

- 2. The British Protestant Poor Fund Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.
- 3. The Revenue Order Amendment Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.
- 4. The Sketching Amendment Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.
- 5. The Settled Land Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.
- 6. The Truck Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.
- 7. The Oaths Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.
- 8. The Law of Libel Amendment Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.
- 9. The Factors Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.
- 10. The Arbitration Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.
- 11. The Partnership Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.
- 12. The Custody of Children Ordinance. Gibraltar, 1895.
- 13. The Slander of Women Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.

GIBRALTAR.

1895

14. The Penal Servitude Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.

15. The Conveyance and Law of Property Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.

16. The Accumulations Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.

17. The Voluntary Conveyances Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.

18. The Trustee Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.

19. The Married Woman's Property Amendment Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.

20. The Sale of Goods Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.21. The Sanitary Loans Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.

22. The Electric Lighting Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.

23. The Sanitary Order Amendment Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1895.

24. The Improvements in thawing Frozen Food Ordinance. Gibraltar, 1895.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of summary convictions in the police magistrate's court was 854, or 230 less than in the previous year. 280 persons were brought before the police magistrate and discharged with a caution; 202 were discharged for want of prosecution, and 76 were dismissed on the merits, the majority of these being minor offences.

23 Cases were committed for trial in the Supreme Court, namely:—

12 for offences against the person.

5 for offences against property.
1 for attempt at rape

1 for attempt at rape 1 for child murder.

2 for attempted murder

1 for murder.

Verdicts for the Crown were returned in 10 of these cases, iz:—

5 for offences against the person.

3 for offences against property.

1 for attempt at murder.

1 for murder.

Verdicts of not guilty were returned in eight cases, viz.:-

5 for offences against the person.

1 for offence against property.

1 for attempt at rape.

1 for child murder.

In two cases the bills were thrown out by the grand jury. In the case of murder, the prisoner was convicted and sentenced to death, and the sentence was duly carried out.

Under charge of the excellent and trustworthy gaoler, the civil

prison has been kept in a high state of efficiency.

o 92740.

GIBRALTAR. 1895.

EDUCATION.

The number of children on the books is almost the same as in 1894, as will be seen from the following table:—

Nar	ne of S	School.			Number o	n Books.
					1894.	1895.
Roman Catholic Brothers.	Poor	Schools,	Christ	ian	1,227	1,224
Wesleyan -	-			-	95	102
Infant Industrial	-	-	-	-	173	174
Public -	-	*	-	-	222	200
Hebrew Poor	-	1-1851		7	67	79
					1,784	1,779

Out of the 1,779 children on the books, there was an average daily attendance of 1,331.

The large new Roman Catholic school buildings are well advanced, and the Hebrew Community will probably finish their handsome new poor schools within the year. These will afford greatly increased accommodation, so that in 1897 the number of children attending these schools is likely to be larger, especially in the case of the Hebrew Community, whose children do not attend schools of other denominations.

The education returns in the Blue Book in this, as in former years, are confined to aided schools, and therefore do not give any idea of the real state of education in Gibraltar. No effort seems ever to have been made to obtain information as to other private schools, of which there are several large and well-kept ones. Next year an attempt will be made to obtain this information.

GENERAL.

The Blue Book of Gibraltar does not offer much scope for a lengthy or detailed report, as, although when the works which have been commenced by Her Majesty's Government, and those for which the consent of Parliament has been obtained, are completed, the character of the place will be considerably changed, yet the change must necessarily be gradual, and the chief effect at present of these works is that the money put in circulation improves the condition of the people, as no one in Gibraltar who desires work is unable to obtain it. The only staple trade, the coaling trade, may be said to be somewhat stationary with a tendency towards depreciation, but the merchants engaged in it, who are best qualified to judge, expect that the improved facilities which will

GIBRALTAR. 1895.

11

be afforded by the completion of the harbour will do much to secure a return of their trade to its former importance. Gibraltar is too well known to make it useful or desirable to point out the advantages of its climate or the drawbacks of its currency. We have no wish to attract fresh population to our already overcrowded streets, nor is there any new industry awaiting capital and enterprise for its development, and thus there is little left for remark, except to show that our modest revenues have been carefully and economically administered and for the best interests of the people.

Gibraltar, June 2, 1896.

H. M. JACKSON, Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 158.

GOLD COAST.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, see No. 136 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



LONDON:

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.		Co	olony.				Year.
122	Labuan -						1893
123	Basutoland					-	1893-94
124	St. Lucia -	-	2	-		_	1893
125	St. Helena						"
126	Ceylon -		-	-	-	-	,,
127	Fiji -			78.		_	"
128	Grenada -						"
129	Sierra Leone	_	-: [-	-12		"
130	British Bechuanal	and		E10 - 11		ATE	1893-94
131	British New Guine	ea				-	1892-3 &
							1893-94
132	Lagos -					-	1893
133	British Guiana	-	-			-	1893-4
134	Jamaica -		-	60 L 46		-	,,
135	Newfoundland	-	-			-	1893
136	Gold Coast	-	-		-	-	,,
137	Zululand -	-	-		-	-	1894
138	Bermuda -					-	"
139	Bahamas -	-14				-	,,
140	Barbados -					-	"
141	Turks and Caicos	Islands	3 -		-	-	,,
142	Malta -	-	-		-	-	,,
143	Gambia -	-				-	,,
144	Windward Islands		-	-			22
145	Trinidad and Toba	go		•			"
146	Gibraitar -	-	-	-	-	- 1	22
147	Falkland Islands	-		- 12			,,
148	Hong Kong		-	•	•	-	,,,
149	Straits Settlement	s -		•	•		"
150	Lagos -	-	-	-	-17	-	"
151	Seychelles -		-		-	-	,,,
152	Basutoland -	•	-		-	-	1894–95
153	Fiji -	•	-	-	-	•	1894
154	St. Helena -	-	-	•	-		,,
155	Ceylon -		-		• •	-	"
156	Mauritius -	•	-	-		7	,,
157	Labuan -	-	-			-	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

To.	Color	ny.		Subject.
1	Gold Ccast			Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -			Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	-	-	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -		-	Emigration.

No. 158.

GOLD COAST.

[For Report for 1893, see No. 136.]

GOLD COAST. 1894.

3

GOVERNOR MAXWELL to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Christiansborg Castle,

SIR, Accra, October 2, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the report in anticipation of the Blue Book for 1894, which I am required by Section 271 of the Colonial Regulations to furnish in order that it may be laid before Parliament. The report has been prepared by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

WILLIAM MAXWELL.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF GOLD COAST COLONY FOR THE YEAR 1894.

TAXES AND DUTIES.

In the third paragraph of the report on the Blue Book for the year 1892, reference was made to the reduction from the 1st May 1890 of the duties upon spirits, tobacco, and gunpowder, and the exemption from duty of all merchandize elsewhere subject to an ad valorem duty of 10 per cent. imported into the Gold Coast eastward of the Volta, and it was stated that this measure was rendered necessary by trade having been attracted to the neighbouring German Colony of Togoland in consequence of the lower duties levied in that Colony. This action had the almost immediate effect of rehabilitating the trade of the ports of Adda and Kwitta, and rendered it necessary for the German Government on their part to take steps to put a stop to the serious loss of revenue which they at once commenced to sustain. To further reduce their tariff was out of the question: it was already too low to give the Colony a sufficient revenue to meet necessary expenditure. The remedy lay only in the establishment of a Customs Union with the Gold Coast. This was proposed and the proposal met with success. On the 24th February 1894, a Convention was signed at Berlin "to assure the development of Commerce " within the territories of either state on the Gold and Slave " Coasts."

2. It was arranged that the tariff fixed by the Convention, which it was stipulated should apply only to that part of the Wt. 20348. o 89260.

GOLD COAST. 1894. Gold Coast lying eastward of the Volta, should come into force on the 1st May 1894. Accordingly, from that date the following changes were made:—

The duty on gin, brandy, rum, liqueurs, and strong drinks of all kinds, was raised from $5\frac{1}{2}d$. to $9\frac{3}{4}d$. per old wine

gallon:

Tobacco from $1\frac{1}{4}d$. to $2\frac{3}{4}d$. per lb.

Gunpowder from 5s. per 100 lbs. to 1s. per lb. (reduced from the 1st June to 6d. lb.) and firearms from 1s. to 2s. each.

Further, an ad valorem duty of 4 per cent. was placed upon the principal articles of other merchandize, an arrangement which, so far as the Gold Coast is concerned, re-introduced the state of things existing with regard to such goods prior to the 1st January 1888.

3. The Convention is to remain in force until the 1st May 1896, and thereafter until either contracting party shall terminate it by giving six months notice of their desire to do so. An important

feature of the Convention is the following stipulation:

"The contracting Powers expressly bind themselves to abstain from influencing the natives in any unjustifiable or arbitrary manner in regard to their choice of places of huying and selling, and they will use their best endeavours to prevent such pressure being applied by traders or others."

4. The fiscal arrangements in respect of the Gold Coast Colony irrespective of the comparatively small portion of it lying eastward

of the Volta have remained unchanged.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

5. The revenue for the year shows that the general trade of the Colony has been maintained, and is in a satisfactory condition. It amounted to 218,261l. 5s. 7d., being an increase of 16,478l. 8s. 5d. over the revenue of 1893, which amounted to 201,782l. 17s. 2d.

6. In the following table the revenue is classified under the

principal heads and compared with that of 1893:--

Items of revenue.	1893.	1894.	Increase.	
Duties on wines, spirits, tobacco, guns, &c. (Specific).	£ s. d. 144,907 1 9	£ s. d. 154,155 14 3	£ s. d. 9,248 12 6	
Duties on general merchandize (ad valorem).	32,812 7 9	36,993 1 9	4,180 14 0	
Liquor licenses -	5,482 10 0	5,800 0 0	317 10 0	
Stamps (postal, telegraph and revenue).	7,352 1 8	9,744 15 6	2,392 13 10	
Other items	*11,228 16 0	+11,567 14 1	338 18 1	
Total Revenue £	201,782 17 2	218,261 5 7	16,478 8 5	

^{*} Includes 4,9721. 8s. 9d. interest on investments. † Includes 5,1811. 16s. 7d. interest on investments.

7. Taking the population of the Gold Coast at 1,500,000, as Gold Coast. estimated from the Census returns of 1891, the taxation in respect of the year 1894 amounted to 2s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$. per head.

Expenditure.

8. Expenditure shows a large increase as compared with previous years. It amounted to 226,931l. 19s. 4d., being 8,670l.13s. 9d. in excess of the revenue for the year, and 47,997l. 7s. 11d. more than that of 1893. The principal items of increase are public works, upon which a sum of 54,163l. 0s. 3d. was spent, (being 24,015l. 19s. 2d. more than the expenditure in 1893,) and the expedition in defence of the protected district of Attabubu against an Ashanti invasion which cost 10,778l. 11s. and which is referred to in the Report on the Blue Book for 1893 and at paragraph 13 of this report.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

9. The Gold Coast Colony has no public debt and the net amount of assets which on the 31st December 1893 amounted to 175,615l. 2s. 4d. stood on the 31st December 1894 at 166,944l. 8s. 7d.

MUNICIPALITIES.

10. An Ordinance to provide for the establishment of town councils in the towns of the Colony was passed on the 14th November 1894. It supersedes and repeals the Municipalities Ordinance, 1889, which, for reasons given in previous reports, was never brought into force, and is designed to provide a means of starting town councils under Government supervision. The main features of the Ordinance are that one-half the members of the council shall be official members, and shall include the District Commissioner, who shall be ex-officio president and treasurer of the council, power to levy a rate not exceeding 5 per cent. on every house the rateable value of which is not less than 2l. a year, and the administration by the council, instead of by the Government, of the following Ordinances:—

Sales by Auction Ordinance, 1878, Spirit License Ordinance, 1887, Towns Ordinance, 1892;

the revenue derivable from these Ordinances being placed in the hands of the council for purposes of municipal administration.

11. Opposition to the measure at once manifested itself; it took the form of the old dislike to direct taxation, and, in addition, an adverse opinion to the constitution of the council, and the insufficiency of revenue provided by the Government to supplement direct taxation. An influential and representative deputation waited on the Governor to express its views, when it was argued

1894.

GOLD COAST. that councils constituted on the lines laid down in the Ordinance would not be representative in character, that they should be in the hands of the representatives of the people who would have to pay the taxes, that the people were not as yet ripe for town councils, that the revenue would be insufficient to take in hand such schemes of urgency as the provision of a good water supply and the improvement of sanitary arrangements, and that towns in which town Councils were to be started should first have these two named essentials provided by the Government, leaving to the councils the work of carrying them on efficiently.

12. There is perhaps some force in these arguments, but it is desirable to educate the people in the art of self-government, and it is not improbable that opposition to the Ordinance will die out, and that town councils will become popular institutions, once they are started and the people see that direct taxation will fall upon the persons who can afford to pay and not, as they fear, upon the poorer classes who inhabit mud huts, which, with very few excep-

tions, are unlikely to come up to the rateable standard.

MILITARY AND POLICE FORCES.

13. The commencement of the year found the larger part of the Hausa force in Attabubu. It had been sent for the defence of that district of the Protectorate in October 1893 upon its becoming known that the Ashanti army, under the Kumasi General, Amankwatia Kwamin, had received instructions, after the successful termination of the war with Nkoranza, to make a descent on Attabubu, and to bring the Attabubus and other neighbouring Brong tribes into subjection to Ashanti. The Ashanti army was withdrawn to Kumasi upon the arrival of the Hausas; and, as soon as it became clear that the designs against Attabubu had been abandoned, the main body of the Hausa force returned to Accra, but not until after treaties of friendship and freedom of trade had been made with the Brong tribes and also with the Nkoranzas. Small detachments of Hausas were left at Bompata and Agogo, the latter being a tributary country to Ashanti, the king of which in consequence of the presence of the Government forces in the neighbourhood, had been emboldened to shake off his allegiance and make overtures for inclusion within the Protectorate.

14. The result of the campaign was not satisfactory to the Ashantis. They discovered that their movements were well known to the Government of the Gold Coast, that they were unable to impinge upon the Protectorate with impunity, and that they could not deal with Attabubu as they had dealt with Adansi, a country which until the Ashanti war of 1873-74 had been tributary to Ashanti, but had by the terms of the treaty signed at Fomana been made an independent, or, as it was called, a "buffer," country etween the Protectorate and Ashanti (in 1887 the Bekwai contingent of the Ashanti army routed the Adansis and drove them

345

into the Protectorate where their blind King, Inkansa, and his principal adherents have since lived in exile, waiting for the time when Ashanti shall cease to be an independent power and they can return in safety to their country. Further, instead of the subjection of the Brong tribes, these tribes as well as the tributary country of Nkoranza made treaties with the Government, and in that way cut themselves further adrift from the tyrannical rule to which they had so long been compulsorily subjected.

- 15. Arrangements are being matured for the formation of a reserve of Hausas by encouraging men of good character to settle in the vicinity of Accra, instead of returning to their country upon the receipt of their discharge, and the gratuity which length of service with the Hausa Constabulary has earned for them. It is proposed to give each man a grant of land upon certain conditions which will include attendance at a fixed number of drills with target practice annually. The necessary tract of land has been acquired for the purpose.
- 16. The efficiency of the volunteers was maintained. The force, which is armed with the Martini-Henri rifle, numbers 300 rank and file, and consists of two detachments, one of 180 in strength at Accra, and one of 120 at Cape Coast. At head-quarters (Accra) there is a stretcher party, composed of dispensers and other employés of the medical department, as well as a squad of signal-lers taken from the Government and Cable Company's telegraph staff.
- 17. On the 30th June an Ordinance was passed for the purpose of separating the police force from the Hausa Constabulary, and placing the former on an entirely different footing to that which had previously obtained. The force has now its own organisation and officers, and will, it is hoped, become an efficient body.

PUBLIC WORKS.

18. There was considerable activity with regard to public works, many long contemplated and necessary works having been either completed or commenced during the year. Of the total expenditure of 54,163l. on the Public Works Department about 40,000l. must be set down to these works. Included in them is the survey of the route for a railway from the coast to the interior to which reference is made later under the head of "Railways, Roads, and Telegraphs."

LEGISLATION.

- 19. Seventeen Ordinances were passed during the year, the most important being the following:—
 - No. 2. An Ordinance to regulate the importation of folded woven goods. It has for many years been the custom for

GOLD COAST. 1894. GOLD COAST. 1894. woven goods to be sent to West Africa for sale folded in certain lengths, and the native, uneducated in the matter of measures, knew that in purchasing such goods he would receive material of a length known to him. It was his practice to count the folds. Latterly he has been imposed upon. Unscrupulous traders had their woven goods manufactured so as to show no signs of alteration, but these, when unrolled, gave deficient lengths, thus defrauding the purchaser.

The Ordinance was passed to protect the native and to

render such frauds penal.

No. 3. An Ordinance to change the duties of Customs payable on certain imports into those parts of the Colony and Protected territories lying to the eastward of the river Volta, and to impose duties of Customs on certain other such

imports.

This Ordinance was passed in order to give effect to Convention signed at Berlin on the 24th February 1894, for the purpose of establishing a Customs Union between that part of the Colony lying eastward of the Volta and the German Colony of Togoland. Reference has already been made to the establishment of the Customs Union in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of this report.

No. 6. An Ordinance relating to the Civil Police of the Gold Coast Colony. Under this Ordinance the police force is constituted a body separate from the Hausa Constabulary, and is provided with organization, discipline, and general powers.

No. 9. An Ordinance to provide for the publication of a collected and revised edition of the Ordinances of the

Colony.

There have been so many additions in recent years to the laws of the Colony, and so many alterations in, and amendments of, old Ordinances, that a collected and revised edition of the Ordinances has become an absolute necessity.

It is hoped that the work will be shortly completed and

ready for publication.

No. 13. An Ordinance to provide for the better maintenance of

the roads of the Colony.

This Ordinance repeals the Public Labour Ordinance, 1883, which was so drastic in the clauses referring to compulsory labour as to prove quite unworkable. Compulsion is now limited to labour on the public roads.

No. 17. An Ordinance to provide for the establishment of town councils in the towns of the Colony.

This Ordinance has been referred to in paragraph 10 under the head of municipalities.

Pepulation.

GOLD COAST. 1894.

9

20. The action of the Liberian Government in placing a poll-tax upon Kroomen who leave their country to labour elsewhere has restricted the supply of these industrious African natives, who are truly the coolies of West Africa, and has forced upon the attention of the Government the question of forming Kroo settlements on the Gold Coast.

By nature docile, tractable, and not fastidious as to their surroundings, these hardy West Africans have all the elements of easy colonization. Moreover, as they are West Africans, all risk of failure as regards climate which has to be run in connection with the immigration of Chinese, Zanzibaris, Indian Coolies, or any race of men other than West Africans, is avoided.

- 21. It is a disappointing fact that, as yet, reliance cannot be placed upon the native of the Gold Coast to give employers of labour continuous and honest service, and that for work which is of a continuous character, such as the work of the gold mining companies, the construction of roads, and so forth, a nucleus of imported labour is necessary. The native cannot free himself from certain native customs at which he considers his presence imperative, as, for example, the annual festivities of his town known as the Yam custom, which takes place after the in-gathering of the food-crops, and which never lasts less than two weeks, and, above all, the numerous funeral customs, absence from which would be interpreted as a slight upon the family of the deceased to be visited upon the head of the culprit at the first fitting opportunity. Natives from a far country come emancipated from such trammels, and so are in a position to give continuous labour. When the native ceases to regard labour as derogatory, ceases to consider it necessary to show that he is an independent and free man by quitting his employment without regard to the interests of his employers, and ceases to be bound by his old-time native customs, the competition of aliens will no longer be necessary, as the country teems with a population capable, if properly directed of giving their strength to the development of its resources.
- 22. The number of Christian marriages celebrated in the Colony during the year was 159, being an increase of 24 over the number celebrated in 1893. The numbers during the last six years have been as follows:-

1889	-		-	-	-	83
1890		-	-		-	93
1891		-		-	-	94
1892	-		-	L	-	110
1893		- 1		-	-	135
1894				-	-	159

Total Christian marriages in six years 674 Gold Coast. 23. The population according to the Census returns taken in 1894. 1891 is 1,473,882 and the Christians are estimated at 37,500.

EDUCATION.

- 24. A new code has been drawn up for the purpose of increasing the efficiency of the elementary schools, and at the same time of pushing the important work of education. It has not as yet come into operation, but is before the managers of schools for their consideration.
- 25. The number of schools in the Colony under Government supervision and receiving grants in aid was 77, being an increase or 10 in the number for 1893. They are shown as follows:—

Government schools	J 19.03		-	7
Basel Mission schools	-10-	-	-	30
Wesleyan Mission schools	-	-	-	28
Roman Catholic schools	-		-	12

- 26. In connection with these schools, eight penny saving banks are in existence, and a library has been started in the Accra Government school for the use of past and present scholars. It is intended to start a library also in connection with the Government schools at Cape Coast.
- 27. The total number of children under instruction in the aided schools during the last six years has been as follows:—

1889	tura break	100		-	•	5,038
1890	-				-	5,356
1891	-				-	6,678
1892				-	-	7,572
1893					-	7,150
1894	9-	1 6 - 1 1 1 1	-	1	-	7,689

and the following table shows the distribution of the children:-

	V		Gove	rnment Sc	chools.	Wesleya	an Mission	Schools.	Basel	Mission S	chools.	Roman	Catholic	Schools.	Bremen	Mission S	Schools.
	1	ear.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
															N. L.		
1889	•		784	215	999	1,620	178	1,798	1,155	531	1,686	364	91	455	92	8	100
1890		•	683	201	884	1,769	203	1,972	1,282	615	1,897	432	86	518	68	17	85
1891	•	i	818	231	1,049	2,019	223	2,242	1,424	780	2,204	807	222	1,029	128	26	54
1892	•		880	218	1,098	2,576	372	2,948	1,412	780	2,192	1,008	181	1,189	-	-	
1893			771	203	974	2,214	289	2,503	1,733	960	2,693	819	161	980	-	-	-
1894			784	205	989	2,789	384	3,173	1,363	943	2,306	1,089	132	1,221	-	ne.	-

GOLD COAST. 1894.

- 28. The schools of the Colony may be divided into three classes:—
 - (a.) Those in which all instruction is imparted in the English language,

(b.) Those in which instruction is imparted partly in English

and partly in the vernacular, and

(c.) Those in which the vernacular only is employed.

The schools which can be included in the first heading are almost entirely those in the principal towns on the sea-board, where contact with English-speaking people has given the natives

a knowledge of the language.

29. The majority of the children attending the schools are, it must be noted with regret, in the lower school standards, and of these the greater number are in the "infant" classes. The attendance in the higher standards has hitherto been comparatively small.

30. In the more advanced schools, book-keeping, shorthand, singing by note, and drill, are taught to the boys, and needlework and household work to the girls, classes for tuition in woodcarving, carpentry, smith-work and practical husbandry, being

also held in connection with some of the schools.

31. It has been proposed to send a certain number of selected native lads to England to undergo a special training to fit them to act as working foremen in the Public Works Department or as engineers in connection with the contemplated railway.

TRADE.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

32. The trade of the Gold Coast is rapidly increasing. It amounted in value in 1894 to 1,663,173l. 19s. 9d. of which 812,830l. 8s. 10d. represented the value of the imports and 850,343l. 10s. 11d. that of the exports. The bulk of the trade is with the United Kingdom, as shown by the following comparative tables:—

Imports.

Year.		From the United Kingdom.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Totals.
*1890 -	-	£ s. d. 422,739 14 6	£ s. d. 5,861 0 4	£ s. d. 133,502 1 6	£ s. d. 562,102 16 4
1891 -	-	483,392 18 3	5,085 6 10	177,302 17 11	665,781 3 0
1892 -		407,037 16 10	9,924 13 11	180,132 1 8	597,094 12 5
1893 -		524,036 16 1	8,719 5 10	185,597 2 4	718,353 4 3
1894 -		582,273 14 8	13,168 14 1	217,388 0 1	812,830 8 10

^{*} Present tariff brought into force on the 1st January 1890.

Exports.

GOLD COAST. 1894.

Year.	From the United Kingdom.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Totals.		
1890	£ s. d. 494,237 1 11	£ s. d. 643 19 2	£ s. d. 106,467 8 5	£ s. d. 601,348 9 6		
1891	545,492 16 6	2,035 5 0	136,776 18 2	684,304 19 8		
1892	471,218 19 10	2,053 13 9	191,791 9 8	665,064 3 3		
1893	530,300 1 5	27,016 16 7	164,790 1 1	722,106 19 1		
1894	608,258 6 7	29,765 3 1	212,320 1 3	850,343 10 11		

33. It will be seen from these two tables that, while the trade with the United Kingdom has increased from 1,054,336l. 17s. 6d. in 1893 to 1,190,532l. 1s. 3d. in 1894, or roughly 13 per cent., the trade with foreign countries has increased upwards of 22 per cent., namely, from 350,387l. 3s. 5d. to 429,708l. 1s. 4d. The latter increase is almost entirely confined to the trade with the United States, Germany, and France, as shown by the following figures:—

		Imports.		Exports.				
	1893.	1894.	Increase.	1893.	1894.	Increase.		
United States-	£ s. d. 65,220 0 8	£ s. d. 79,112 13 7	£ s. d. 13,892 12 11	£ s. d. 9,929 11 5	£ s. d. 27,868 19 9	£ s. d. 17,939 8 4		
Germany -	77,304 10 0	87,966 6 3	10,661 16 3 Decrease.	96,785 8 4	104,987 1 11	8,201 13 7		
France	17,667 7 5	16,550 9 11	1,116 17 6	49,834 16 11	71,127 0 9	21,292 3 10		

The trade of the Gold Coast during the last five years is shown as follows:—

					Imp	orts.		T		m .		
		Year.			Paying D	aty.	Admitte	d Free	Expo	orus.	Totals.	
1890					£ s. 347,480 1	. d. 7 10	£ 214,621	s. d. 18 6	£ 601,348	s. d. 9 6	£ 1,163,451	s. d 3 10
1891		-			464,188	1 7	201,593	1 5	684,304	19 8	1,350,086	2 8
1892		4			422,026	8 1	175,068	4 4	665,064	3 3	1,262,064	3 3
1893				-	475,346 1	5 8	243,006	8 7	722,106	19 1	1,440,460	3 4
1894					607,109	7 2	205,721	1 8	850,343	10 11	1,663,173	19 9

35. The principal articles of trade are:—

Imports.—Cotton, woollen, and silk goods, spirits, hardware and cooper's stores, rice, flour, provisions, tobacco, building materials, and wearing apparel.

Exports.—Palm oil, palm kernels, rubber, gold dust, timber, kola nuts, and monkey skins.

GOLD COAST. 1894. 36. The liquor traffic is shown by the following comparative statement, from which it will be seen that the trade has decreased to the extent of 146,182 old wine gallons, the decrease in the trade in rum being particularly noticeable:—

Description of		Quantity	Imported.	Increase.	Decrease,
Liquor.		1893.	1894.	Increase.	Decrease.
Rum		Old Wine Gall. 1,147,676	Old Wine Galls. 985,121	Old Wine Galis.	Old Wine Galls. 162,555
Gin and Geneva		294,687	317,778	23,091	-
Whisky -		7,391	7,720	329	
Brandy -	-	830	875	45	
Wines	-	24,098	20,619		3,479
Ale and porter	-	21,949	18,947		3,002
Liqueurs, &c	-	3,564	2,953		611
Totals -		1,499,801	1,354,013	23,465	169,647
		Total Dec	rease in 1894 -		146,182

With the total consumption of alcoholic drink in 1894 of 1,354,000 old wine gallons, or 1,083,200 Imperial gallons, it may safely be said that, after allowing for the quantity which finds its way into countries beyond the boundaries of the Protectorate, and, taking the population of the Gold Coast at the census estimate of 1,473,882, the consumption does not exceed five-sixths of an Imperial gallon per head.

37. The following table shows that the staple articles of export, palm oil and palm kernels, have satisfactorily increased, thus indicating that the native has done more work during the year under review, and perhaps also that the action of the Government in improving the road communication with the trade ports is beginning to have its natural result:—

					Pa	lm Oil.	Palm Kernels.			
	Year.				Gallons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.		
1894				-	4,213,935	£ s. d. 237,623 3 9	17,136	£ s. d. 112,373 6 1		
1893				-	3,417,306	183,909 14 10	12,041	80,721 8 11		
	Increase				796,629	53,713 8 11	5,095	31,651 17 2		

38. On the other hand, rubber shows a falling off of 368,463 lbs., the exports in 1894 having been 3,027,527 lbs., as against 3,395,950 lbs. in 1893. Notwithstanding this falling off, more rubber was collected in 1894 than in any previous year, excepting

1890 and 1893, and the decline may be traceable to the disturb- Gold Coast. ance of trade in Ashanti (where large quantities of rubber are collected), arising from the petty war between King Prempeh of Kumasi and the Nkoranzas, and from the state of unrest which prevails in Ashanti, which deters many native rubber collectors from proceeding to that country.

39. There has been a most satisfactory increase in the export of mahogany and other valuable woods of the Colony, and the timber trade may now be regarded as established.

The growth of this trade is clearly shown by the following figures :-

Year.		Quantity.	Value.		
1890 -		6,375	£ 510	s. a	
1891 -	-	1,350,226	22,096	12	
1892 -	-	2,130,614	36,407	6	
1893 -	-	3,412,486	50,428	9	
1894 -	1	5,012,670	69,405	13 10	

40. Very satisfactory and gratifying progress has been made in what may be called the minor industries of the Colony, namely cocoa, coffee, guinea grains, and kola nuts.

The exports of these articles of commerce were as follows:-

Year.	Cocoa.		Coffee.		Guin	ea Grains.	Kola Nuts.		
T Call.	lbs.	Value.	lbs.	Value.	lbs.	Value.	Packages.	Value.	
1894 - 1893 -	20,312 3,460	£ s d. 546 17 4 93 17 10	41,488 21,437	£ s. d. 1,265 3 4 630 13 3	174,412 83,224	£ s. d. 1,186 17 4 661 2 3	1,202 979	£ s. d 28,511 18 11 25,716 5 7	
Increase	16,852	452 19 6	20,051	634 10 1	91,188	525 15 1	223	2,795 13 4	

- 41. The increase in the exports of cocoa and coffee is directly traceable to the impetus given to the cultivation of those valuable economic products by the establishment of the Government Botanical Station at Aburi in 1890. The whole of the cocoa of 1894 and by far the greater quantity of coffee was, it may be stated, exported to Germany.
- 42. The kola nut is a very valuable product, and its cultivation should be carefully encouraged. Its use as a food of high sustaining qualities has long been known to the Mohammedan Hausa tribes in the Hinterland of West Africa, and it is believed that on account of these qualities a preparation of the nut now forms a reserve

Gold Coast. ration in the German army when on active service. It is a product the export of which will most certainly increase.

43. The slaughter of monkeys continues, no fewer than 168,405 skins, of the total value of 41,001l. 14s. 10d., having been

exported from the Gold Coast during the year.

44. It is satisfactory to note that the export of ground-nuts has commenced, 706 lbs. having been shipped of the total value of 201. 17s.

SHIPPING.

45. There has been a marked increase in the number of steamers carrying merchandize to and from the Gold Coast, due partly to the fact that a new line of steamers (General Steam Navigation Company), has entered into competition for the West African trade, and partly to the expansion of trade. The following comparative statement will be of interest:—

				Sailing Vessels.				Steamers.			
Nationalit	1893.		1894.		1893.		1894.				
				No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage
Great Britain			-	6	1,583	4	691	200	274,493	261	353,002
Germany				7	1,494	-	-	81	86,539	90	108,192
France -	, å			3	1,664	4	1,900	36	43,099	43	49,765
Italy -				7	3,198	9	3,064	-	_	-	
United States				8	2,492	7	3,370	-	The Par	-	_
Other nations		-		1	277	-	-	2	1,232	1	1,008
Totals				32	10,708	24	9,025	319	405,354	395	511,967

AGRICULTURE.

46. The more or less reckless manner in which the Native Kings and Chiefs have granted concessions of large tracts of land under their charge to persons, native as well as European, who have come to them armed only with a handful of silver and the hare statement that they were desirous of mining for gold or trading in mahogany, and the disputes which are arising in consequence of the same land being conceded to more than one company or individual, have attracted the attention of the Government to the necessity of taking steps to ensure that the land shall not be locked up and rendered unavailable to legitimate traders and bonâ fide capitalists on the one hand, and used solely to the advantage of the greedy adventurer without regard to the improvement of the condition of the people who dwell upon the land, on the other.

- 47. The staple food crops of the country, as stated in the report GOLD COAST. on the Blue Book for 1892, are maize, plantains, yams, cassada, ground nuts, and in some districts rice. No means are known to the native of fertilizing the soil. He shifts frequently from one spot to another, preparing, and, if necessary, clearing, sufficient ground for his purpose.
- 48. In many parts of the country the crops have been seriously interfered with by locusts, and the natives have been forced to buy maize imported from Lagos and elsewhere. It has not as yet been shown that the locusts are likely to be a standing menace to the Gold Coast, and no action with respect to them has therefore been taken. The natives themselves adopt no means to destroy either the locusts or the eggs which they lay, and it is probable that unless concerted action were taken any measures which they might adopt in individual places would not be of much use. The difficulty of dealing with the pests is well known. Various methods, direct and indirect, have been suggested. With regard to the former, Monsieur Decaux, a member of the Entomological Society of France, in a paper which he read at the Congres des Sociétés Savantes, in 1894, pointed out how ineffectual were extraordinary measures of destruction employed against the "Acridium peregrinum." In 1890-91, although 87,000 men, furnishing 4,500,000 days of labour and 20,000 Cypriot screens were employed in Algeria, these means did not prevent further damage to agriculture in 1892 and 1893. Of indirect methods, the most popular is the increase of the natural enemies of the insects such as quails, starlings, and toads. It has been found, too, that there is a parasite which is developed with the eggs of the locusts and which feeds upon and destroys the locust when hatched. The propagation of this parasite has been recommended.
- 49. In 1894 the Government had 43 acres under cultivation at its botanical station on the Aburi Hills. Considerable attention has been paid to the cultivation of coffee and cacao, and, although the former seems to be more attractive to the native, the latter has also been coming into favour. Unfortunately, on account of the cacao having been badly cured, it has not fetched good prices in the English market, and the merchants who buy cacao from the grower have reduced the price from 6d. to 4d. per lb. The Curator of the Botanical Station has, however, given instruction to several of the native planters as to the proper method of curing, and it is hoped that better results will now obtain. It is a good sign to find that the Basel Mission, which has done such excellent work in the Gold Coast in teaching handicrafts and proper methods of agriculture to the natives, has now, in connection with some of its schools, formed small plantations of coffee, cacao, and arrowroot for the purpose of teaching the children how to plant and cure in accordance with the methods practised in the Government Botanical Station.

GOLD COAST. 1894. 50. The weather during the year was not favourable to agricultural enterprise, the rainfall having been unusually small. At the Government Botanical Station there were only 81 days of

rain and the total rainfall for the year was 40.64 inches.

51. A system of apprenticeship has been established at the Botanical Station in order to give promising native youths instruction in agriculture, and by thus disseminating a knowledge of the value of economic plants and of a proper system of cultivation and preparation for export to induce the native to turn his attention to other means of earning a livelihood than the gathering of palm kernels and rubber. The arrangement has not been long enough in operation to see whether it is likely to be attended with good results, and there is one great difficulty to combat, namely, that manual labour, and more especially manual labour in connection with agriculture, is regarded as the work of slaves, from the universal practice in former years of employing the slaves of a family upon the family plantations. That product of education, the dignity of labour, is unknown to the West African.

MANUFACTURES, MINES, &C.

52. It has long been thought that petroleum springs existed in Apollonia, and in 1894 Mr. W. S. Haig, C.E., was sent out by an English syndicate for the purpose of examining some springs which had been discovered there, and of reporting upon their value. The report was most favourable, and two large sample barrels of crude oil obtained and forwarded to England were sold at the rate of 70s. per ton. The fact that the springs are within two miles of the coast makes them particularly advantageous for working, and it is not improbable that the attention of capitalists may be attracted to this new form of industry.

53. The year has not been a good one for the gold mining industry. From various causes, the total output has been less than in previous years, and the export of gold dust from the Gold Coast shows a further decline. The recorded output of

the mining companies was as follows:-

Name.		Amount.	Value.			
		oz.	£ s. d. 16,166 5 0			
Tarkwa and Abosso	-	4,490	16,166 5 0			
Cie Appantoo -	-	2,367	8,521 4 0			
Adja Bippo -	-	3,645	13,120 15 1			
Cinnamon Bippo -	-	383	1,377 9 9			
Totals -	-	10,885	39,185 13 10			

54. The following table shows the exports of gold, irrespective Gold Coast of gold specie, from the Colony since 1889:—

	Yea	ır.		Weight.	Valu	ue.	
				Ozs.	£	s.	d.
1889	-	-	-	28,667	103,200	10	0
1890	-	-	-	25,460	The second second second		0
1891		-	-	24,476	88,112	0	0
1892	-	-	-	27,446	98,805	17	0
1893	-	-	-	21,972	79,099		0
1894	-	-	-	21,332	76,795		5

55. In 1889 an Ordinance (which came into force by proclamation on the 15th October) was passed to demonetize gold dust and nuggets, which until then had been accepted as a legal tender at the fixed value of 3l. 12s. 0d. per oz. Merchants still, however, accept gold dust and nuggets in the way of trade, and during 1894 as much as 10,447 ounces were so accepted of the value of 37,610l. 3s. 7d.

56. The number of persons employed in the gold mines fluctuates, but may be put down at 22 Europeans and 2,400 natives.

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

57. There were 1,644 persons received into the 13 gaols and lockups in the Colony, being an increase of 55 over the number in 1893. The following table gives statistics for the last five years:—

	Ye	ar.		Males.	Females.	Juveniles.	Totals.
1890				1,647	76	9	1,732
1891	-		-	1,677	85	8	1,766
1892	-		-	1,475	48	11	1,534
1893	-		-	1,513	61	15	1,589
1894	-		-	1,550	74	20	1,644

The 1,644 persons committed to prison are classified as follows:—

For debt - - - - - 181
For safe custody until trial, or for want of security
For purposes of penal imprisonment - - 1,084

58. Of the 1,084 committed for penal imprisonment, 954 were committed for three months or less, and, of the remainder, 76 were old offenders.

59. The total cost of the prisons establishment has, during the last five years, been as follows:—

						£	S.	d.
1890	-	-	-		-	4,117		
1891	703		-		-	4,230	10	3
1892	-		-	-	-	5,387	1	8
1893	-		-	-	-	5,511	8	3
1894	-	-	-	-	-	5,720	13	1

GOLD COAST. 1894.

- 60. Gangs of prisoners are employed outside the prisons in sanitary work,—at Accra in the Government quarry,—in road cleaning and mending, hauling and breaking stones, and convicts are also taught, inside the two principal gaols, boot-making, carpentering, tailoring, and mat and basket-making.
- 61. The "mark" system, which was introduced in September 1891, continues to work satisfactorily.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

- 62. During the year, 6,700 offences were reported to the police, being an increase of 272 over the number in 1893. Of these cases, 1,417 were discharged or dismissed, and 4,982 were the subject of summary conviction by District Commissioners.
- 63. The following return prepared by the late Chief Justice of the Gold Coast (now Chief Justice of Grenada) shows the work which the courts of the Colony have had to deal with during the past four years:—

	C	ivil Causes.		Crim	inal Causes.	
Year.	Commenced in District Com-		enced in al Courts.	Summarily disposed of	Fined at th	ne Assizes.
	missioner's Courts.	Central Province.	Western Province.	in District Commissioner's Courts.	Central Province.	Western Province
1891	2,058	161	186	5,210	113	
1892	2,546	87	211	5,182	152	
1893	3,031	156	262	6,226	99	103
1894	4,750	247	201	6,399	124	116

64. In the District Commissioner's courts the civil work has more than doubled itself in three years, and the criminal work has increased by 20 per cent. On the other hand, the work of the judges has not increased pari passu, the number of criminal cases being substantially the same in 1891 and 1894, and the civil causes having increased by 29 per cent., namely, from 347 in 1891 to 448 in 1894.

65. In 1894 the Bench was augmented by the appointment of two additional puisne judges, and a Solicitor-General was added to the legal strength of the Colony.

HOSPITALS.

66. Public hospitals are maintained by the Government at Accra, Cape Coast, Elmina, and Axim, and free dispensaries at Ada, Akuse, Chama Kwitta, Saltpond, and Winneba.

67. The hospital at Kwitta, which was located in premises Gold Coass. rented by the Government on the beach, and had to be closed in 1893, in consequence of the building having been seriously damaged by unusually high tides, will be re-opened in new premises in 1895. 1,586 persons were admitted into the hospitals during the year, of whom 189 were suffering from contagious diseases and were treated in the contagious diseases hospital.

68. The following table shows the number of in-patients treated

in the hospitals during the last five years:—

				Patients I	Discharged.		
	Year.		Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	Deaths.	Totals.
1890 -			769	179	40	47	1,035
1891 -	-	-	572	212	41	48	873
1892 -		-	840	272	47	71	1,230
1893 -		-	836	294	36	94	1,260
1894 -		-	1,050	295	32	84	1,461

69. Towards the close of the year, small-pox broke out in many parts of the Colony, and special steps had to be taken to stamp it out. Qualified dispensers were sent through the native villages for the purpose of isolating the cases, vaccinating the people, and instructing them how to prevent the spread of the disease.

70. The months of November and December were most unhealthy for Europeans in the western districts of the Colony, and many

deaths occurred from malignant malarial fever.

PUBLIC LUNATIC ASYLUM.

71. The following table shows the number of lunatic patients treated in the Government Lunatic Asylum since its establishment in 1887 :-

			1000				Discha	arged.						ining
	Year.		Adm	itted.	Cur	ed.	Relie	eved.	impi	ot roved.	Dea	ths.		nber.
			M.	F.	м.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1887			14	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	11	5
1886			17	3	3	-	-	-	1	-	8	3	16	5
1889	7 19	1177	10	3	5	2	_	-	-	-	4	1	17	5
1890			12	_	2	_	1	-	_	-	6	1	20	4
1891			10	3	3	_	-	-	- (-	3	1	24	6
1892			21	2	7	-	-	-	1	-	6	1	31	7
1893			8	4	-	-	5	2	-	-	2	-	32	9
1894	-		22	6	_	-	11	_	-	-	3	_	40	15
To	otal		114	26	20	2	18	2	2	_	34	7	40	15

1894.

GOLD COAST.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

- 72. The rainfall throughout the Colony was much below the average, and at Accra, where meteorological observations are taken, only 23:32 inches were recorded for the whole year. The heaviest fall was in October when there were 9:18 inches, April standing next with 5:04 inches.
- 73. During the last five years the rainfall at Accra has been as follows:—

1890			-	-	-		29.53	inches.
1891	-		-	-	-	-	28.97	92
1892	100	-	-	-		-	29.27	,,,
1893	_	-	-	-	-	-	28.73	,,,
1894		-		-		-	23.32	,,

Inland the rainfall is much greater, but no returns are available.

- 74. Reference is made in paragraph 58 to the rainfall at the Botanical Station on the Aburi Hills.
- 75. Arrangements are being made for the establishment of meteorological observations at Cape Coast, Axim, Ada, and Kwitta.
- 76. The shade temperature ranged from 89°·3 to 70°·6, the former being recorded at Accra in January, and the latter in August, the latter maintaining its reputation for being the least hot month in the year, the shade temperature having ranged during that month between 76°·8 and 70°·6.

SAVINGS BANK.

- 77. Some progress has been made during the year in the great thrift lesson which since 1888 the Government has undertaken to give the natives of the Gold Coast, the number of depositors in the Government Savings Bank having increased from 279 in 1893 to 330 in 1894 and the sum standing to the credit of depositors from 3,924l. 7s. 6d. to 5,162l. 1s. 10d. Of the 330 accounts open on the 31st December 1894, 234 were for sums under 5l.
- 78. The following table shows the position of the Savings Bank at the end of each year of its existence:—

	Year.	Balance.	Deposits.	Interest due on Deposits.	Total.	Amounts withdrawn.	Interest paid on Withdrawals.	Total.	Balance.
1888		£ s. d.	£ s. d. 993 19 0	£ s. d. 7 4 4	£ s. d. 1,001 3 4	£ s. d. 51 13 0	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 51 13 0	£ s. d. 949 10 4
1889		949 10 4	2,663 10 0	40 14 2	3,653 14 6	439 9 0	1 2 7	440 11 7	3,213 2 11
1890		3,213 2 11	1,665 6 8	45 19 11	4,924 9 6	2,705 6 6	3 13 3	2,708 19 9	2,215 9 9
1891		2,215 9 9	3,212 11 2	64 1 7	5,492 2 6	2,331 7 8	9 2 3	2,340 9 11	3,151 12 7
1892		3,151 12 7	3,144 2 8	88 3 0	6,383 18 3	2,865 4 2	9 6 0	2,874 10 2	3,509 8 1
1893		3,509 8 1	3,112 5 6	83 10 9	6,705 4 4	2,776 11 0	4 5 10	2,780 16 10	3,924 7 6
1894	-	3,924 7 6	5,999 19 7	104 6 11	10,028 14 0	4,860 5 4	6 6 10	4,866 12 2	5,162 1 10

330

GOLD COAST.	79. The 330 de	positor	s are cla	sified	as follows	:	
1894.	Clerks	-		-		-	99
	Mechanics	-			-	-	121
	Officials		-			-	87
	Auctioneer	rs ·		-			1
	Friendly se	ocietie	s trustee	es' accou	ints, &c.	-	22
	2 nonary b	3010010	o er aboot	os accor	11100, 000.		

Total -

80. The West African native is in most respects a thriftless person, contented to live only for the present, and happy if with the exercise of a minimum exertion on his part his immediate wants are met. The education which the continuous presence of Europeans in his midst necessarily gives him is gradually but surely revealing to him that he can make his lot happier and his life more pleasant. He is realizing that with money he can improve his house, purchase furniture, and acquire the many things which make for comfort. He is therefore induced to work for wages and become thrifty. The rate of progress in thrift as shown by the Government Savings Bank is to the superficial observer distressingly slow, but the progress is nevertheless sure, and side by side with it is the knowledge that many natives, instead of placing their savings in the bank, employ them in the, to the native, more congenial method of increasing capital by small trading operations, which in this country require only a small eash basis. The African native is not slow to learn once he realizes that to do so is to his advantage, and the time will surely come when the operations of the Government Savings Bank will advance by leaps and bounds.

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH STATISTICS.

Post Office.

- 81. There has been a satisfactory increase in all branches of Post Office work. One additional Post Office was opened during the year, making a total of 32 Post Offices throughout the Colony, and the Parcel Post was extended to the Niger Coast Protectorate and Liberia.
- 82. The following comparative statement shows the progress which has been made:—

	No. o	Estimated No. of	No. of		Money Orde	rs.	Taland		Parcel Pos	t.
Year.	Office	Letters, &c.	Registered Articles dealt with.	No. of Offices open.	Value of Inland Orders.	Value of Foreign Orders.	Inland Postal Orders.	No. of Offices open.	No. of Parcels.	Receipts.
1888	- 1	7 111,041	7,836	2	£ s. d. 1,939 8 2	£ s. d. 6,709 3 7	£ _ s. d.	3	826	£ s. d. 31 19 11
1889	- 2	146,905	9,739	2	1,209 19 1	4,572 2 6	-	3	1,407	55 14 6
1890	- 2	6 161,726	10,862	2	1,681 11 11	3,481 18 0	-	3	1,902	102 8 9
1891	- 3	205,035	11,227	8	1,985 1 4	5,142 18 11	-	3	2,368	146 8 9
1892	- 3	225,293	12,362	5	3,193 8 0	7,251 1 11		Ś	2,379	104 19 1
1893	- 3	335,112	15,956	5	3,787 11 2	9,525 13 7	1,231 3 6	7	2,762	216 6 0
1894	- 8	2 386,028	18,068	5	3,382 9 3	9,888 19 0	2,021 7 6	7	3,224	247 5 3

GOLD COAST. 1894.

83. Postal communcation with nearly all parts of the Colony is hampered by the absence of proper roads and bridges. The mails are conveyed on the heads of men who have to traverse sandy soil and rugged tracts of country, and often to wade across running streams, and it is satisfactory to be able to state that, with but few trifling exceptions, the Inland Mail work has been admirably done by natives at an average cost of 1s. 4d. a day each, or at the all-round rate of 2d. per mile.

TELEGRAPH.

84. In the report on the Blue Book of 1893 it was stated that the Government telegraph line had been connected with that of the adjacent German Colony of Togoland, thus affording to that country access with Europe by means of the Gold Coast Government lines and the cables of the African Direct Telegraph Company, whose office is at Accra. The service was commenced on the 15th January 1894, and during the year there were 302 cablegrams exchanged with Togoland, of which number 190 were sent from that country and 112 to it. It is understood that the French Government is constructing telegraph lines in Dahomey which will be extended to Kotenou and Porto Novo, and so onwards to the German frontier, whereby, joining the German line, access will thus be obtained by that Government to the cables of the African Direct Telegraph Company.

85. The question of running a telegraph line along the military road between Cape Coast and Prahsu, and so connecting the latter place with the Government telegraph system, has been considered and the route for the line surveyed. At Prahsu, which lies on the left bank of the Pra, the boundary at that point of the Protectorate, and which is on the high road from Cape Coast to Kumasi, the Government maintains a ferry and a detachment

of Hausa Constabulary.

86. There are now 20 Government telegraph stations and 375 miles of line. During the year, 73,776 telegrams of all classes were dealt with, of which number 38,129 messages were inland paid messages, that is to say, private messages sent to and from persons in the Colony. In 1893 the number of inland paid messages was 27,934, so that in this class of message, which is some index to the spread of education among the people, the increase has been as much as 36 per cent. The revenue from all sources was 2,293l. 8s. 2d., and the expenditure 5,838l. 13s. 11d.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION.

87. The survey for the proposed railway which was commenced by Captain Lang, R.E., in 1883 has been completed, and his report was presented on the 18th October 1894. The first route surveyed lies between the coast town of Kormantine and the central town of Insuaim (Western Akim), a distance of 65 miles. It is

recommended, however, that the terminal station should be at Eusa, a small village, two and half miles south of Insuaim, so as to avoid the difficult country which lies between it and Insuaim, and because Eusa is regarded as the better converging point for branch railways in the future. Kormantine, which lies two miles west of the flourishing trade port of Saltpond, was selected in the first instance as being the best starting point on account of its small bay which, by breaking the force of the surf, affords the most suitable means on that part of the coast for landing railway material. Later, Appam, which is a town on the Coast, 24 miles eastward of Saltpond, was suggested as an alternative starting point, and the route thence to Afitri, a place on the Kormantine-Insuaim route, was surveyed. The principal advantage of the Appam route is that the length of the railway would be 101 miles less than by starting from Kormantine, and the cost of construction considerably reduced. Captain Lang's estimate of the cost of the line starting from Kormantine is 296,180l. and from Appam 255,816l.

88. The route for the proposed railway was chosen in order to carry the line through a country both fertile and thickly populated, and so to develop the resources of the region through which it passed and to make the line remunerative as quickly as possible. On the other hand, there are many who think that Accra, the head-quarters of the Government, where there is a large amount of fixed capital, should be the starting point of the first railway. The question of gauge is also a matter for serious consideration:

that proposed by Captain Lang is 3 feet 6 inches.

89. In the report on the Blue Book for 1892 it was stated that, —

"At present along the whole surf-bound coast line of the Colony there is no harbour of any kind, and no quay which lighters and launches can run alongside with heavy material and stores. All goods and stores are at present landed in surf boats, often at great difficulty on account of the surf, and the question of the best way of providing means to ensure the safe unloading of heavy material into lighters, and of facilities for unloading the lighters themselves, necessarily obtrudes itself in connection with the laying down and working of lines of railway in the Colony."

The question of undertaking railway work and other works involving the use of heavy machinery necessarily forces to the front the almost equally important question of improving the arrangements for the landing and shipment of material and produce. The possibility of a breakwater at Accra, a project which was considered some years ago, and of making it possible for oceangoing steamers to cross the bar of the Volta, are matters which

will have to be decided in the near future.*

GOLD COAST. 1894.

^{*} Since this was written, the Secretary of State has decided that it is necessary to obtain an authoritative report on the question of the best landing place before the route of the proposed railway can be settled. Messrs. Coode Son and Matthews have accordingly been commissioned to prepare a report, and two engineers selected by them went out in September 1395 to examine the mouth of the Volta and the landing places at Accra, Appam, and any other points to the eastward of Cape Coast which seem likely to offer facilities for the construction of a harbour.

GOLD COAST. 1894.

90. Progress in improving road communication between the trade ports and the interior has been slow. It was hoped that the Roads Department, which had been sanctioned in 1893, would have been organised and would have got to work in real earnest before the year came to an end; but it was not until towards the end of the year that a road surveyor and two road constructors arrived in the Colony to supplement the existing staff. Nevertheless, work was commenced on the trade road from Cape Coast through Denkera and Sefwhi, and is being steadily pushed on. The cost of construction has, so far, been more than was anticipated, having averaged about 120l. a mile, but after all it is not much in excess of the cost of "maintaining" roads in British Guiana, where, notwithstanding the fact that the existing roads pass through a country comparatively flat, and presenting little or no engineering difficulties, the cost of maintaining 161 miles of road in the year 1893-4 amounted to 18,714l., that is to say, to 116l. a mile.

91. The material for the construction of a bridge over the Sweet river, which crosses the coast road between Cape Coast and Elmina, has been ordered, and the bridge will be erected during

the year 1895.

92. The importance of improving the means of communication between the trade ports and the interior cannot be overrated. The French on the one side and the Germans on the other have long been striving to divert trade to their ports on the West African Coast, but, with good road communication to the hinterland of the Gold Coast, English merchants will have little to fear. It is a well known fact that the natives buy manufactured goods in the same market where they take their produce, and such is the partiality of the native for merchandise of English manufacture that, once he is given the means of bringing his produce to English ports, he will not fail to avail himself of them. Railways will open up new markets and additional trade, because European merchants will then take their goods by train to the terminal station where they will establish stores for the purpose of trade. A railway from the coast to Insuaim means therefore, in addition to opening up and developing the country through which it passes, the extension of the trade area of the Gold Coast towards the hinterland by at least 60 miles. Colonel Binger, the present Governor of the Ivory Coast, who has travelled through much of the hinterland of West Africa, in the country embraced by the bend of the Niger river, has given an interesting account of the tribes whom he met with there. Mohammedans by religion, more intelligent and industrious by nature than the negro of the coast lands, they have advanced considerably further in civilization. Their wants are more numerous, and they present in every way a prospective source of profit to the English merchant. the trade with these tribes that attention must ultimately turn.

93. During the year the Government has assumed the control of two terries in Wassaw, one on the Ankobra and the other on the Hooni River. Most of the ferries of the Colony are often so badly worked by the native Chiefs who possess them, and are such

367

fruitful sources of contention between natives tribes, that the Gold Coast. question of the Government either taking charge of them or, at any rate, of those on the principal roads, or of regulating them by law, cannot long be deferred.

GENERAL REMARKS.

- 94. During the year, three missions were sent to Kumassi with a view to effect arrangements for the establishment of a British residency there, but they proved abortive, and at the end of 1894 no satisfactory arrangement had been arrived at. The many causes of dissatisfaction with the administration at Kumassi which exist remained therefore unremoved.
- 95. In April, a succession of fires in Accra burnt down by far the larger part of the native huts in the town, and a scheme was formulated for the acquisition of the whole of the burnt area, through which steps were taken to mark out wide streets, and so to effect a long-needed improvement in this town. Many of the natives who were rendered houseless were temporarily accommodated in the large public market sheds which had just been completed and were about to be opened for market purposes. To the persons whose land has been taken it was proposed to give a free allotment upon a large plot of land acquired for the purpose in the immediate vicinity of the town, where, under certain defined conditions, houses might be built. It is hoped that the laying out of wide streets, besides improving the general appearance of the town, will put an end to much of the overcrowding which is such a difficult matter to deal with, and will give ventilation and better sanitation.
- 96. The question as to the best means to adopt for the purpose of giving the people of the larger coast towns a pure and sufficient water supply has long been under consideration. As regards Accra, it has been proposed that water should be brought into the town from the river Humo, a distance of about The river has been carefully examined, the route surveyed, and the cost estimated, but the water is not considered to be of a sufficiently satisfactory character to warrant the initial expense and the annual cost of maintaining a pumping station. The employment of wind power has been suggested, but has been reported on adversely. It has also been suggested that water should be brought from the Aburi Hills by gravitation, thus avoiding the large annual cost of maintaining a pumping station.
- 97. At Saltpond an enterprising firm of Americans has been conducting experiments in boring for water. At present, success has not attended their efforts, owing to insufficiency of apparatus, but the work is still being pursued, and is being watched with considerable interest.
- 98. The various tribes living within the Protectorate have given no serious troubie. There have been disturbances here and there, but, as a rule, they have lived peaceably among themselves

GOLD COAST. 1894

and with their neighbours. The last of the political prisoners was released, and Kwabina Edjen, the exiled King of Elmina, (exiled to Sierra Leone in 1883 for complicity in the troubles with Ashanti), was brought back to Elmina amid great rejoicing on the part of the people of that district. Chief Kwabina Atcheri, who had been exiled to Lagos in 1888 in connection with the serious disturbances which took place at Wanki in that year, of which

he was the originator, was restored to his country.

99. It has been shown by the trade statistics under the head of "Imports and Exports" that the general prosperity of the Colony has increased. The people are beginning to feel and appreciate the benefits of civilization, and, once the country and its hinterland are opened up to commerce by better means of communication, and the several tribes become more in touch with the governing power, there is absolutely no reason why there should not be an enormous increase in trade, with all the advantages to the native which follow in its train.

Accra, Gold Coast, September 1, 1895. F. M. Hodgson, Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 148.

HONG KONG.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, see Colonial Report [Annual] No. 107.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Col	ony.			Year.
113	Barbados		-	-	1893
114	Malta	-	Open Ty	-	"
115	Zululand			-	"
116	British Honduras -	-		-	"
117	Trinidad and Tobago	- /		-	"
118	Falkland Islands -				,,
119	Rodrigues		•	-	"
120	Mauritius	-		-	,,
121	Straits Settlements			-	"
122	Labuan			-	,,
123	Basutoland -	· BOYGE		19 1/1 -	1893-94
124	St. Lucia		TE E PL		1893
125	St. Helena -			-	"
126	Ceylon			-	,,
127	Fiji		-		,,
128	Grenada				"
129	Sierra Leone -				,,
130	British Bechuanaland		-		1893-94
131	British New Guinea				1892-38
					1893-94
132	Lagos				1893
133	British Guiana				1893-94
134	Jamaica				
135	Newfoundland -			-	1893
136	Gold Coast -				
137	Zululand				1894
138	Bermuda		-	-	"
139	Bahamas		-		
140	Barbados	-			"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands		-		"
142	Malta				"
143	Gambia	-		201215	"
144	Windward Islands -				"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	-			"
146	Gibraltar				"
147	Falkland Islands -				"
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MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.			Subject.
1	Gold Coast -	N. VIII	1/2	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -	1.		Forests.
3	Sierra Leone			Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -	-		Emigration.

No. 148.

HONG KONG.

Hong Kong. 1894.

[For Report for 1893 see Colonial Report (Annual) No. 107.]

Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Hong Kong,

SIR, July 10, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Blue Book for 1894, together with the following review of a singularly eventful year to which, by reason of the troubles and misfortunes that occurred within it, the previous history of this Colony can furnish no parallel.

Rate of Exchange.

The year 1894 was greeted at its opening by a rapid depreciation in the value of silver; the gold value of the dollar, which towards the end of 1893 had been fairly steady at 2s. 4d., fell suddenly during the first two months of 1894 to 1s. $11\frac{1}{2}d$., reducing business transactions to the level of a mere game of chance and materially affecting the prospects of the import trade from gold-standard countries. During the month of April, however, there was a slight recovery, the value of the dollar advancing to 2s. 1d., and the rate of exchange remaining fairly steady at that quotation and having a further upward tendency at the beginning of May, business prospects improved proportionately and there was reason to look forward to an improvement in trade generally. It was, however, at this juncture that a great calamity intervened in the form of a disastrous epidemic.

The Plague Epidemic.

Early in April it was rumoured that a disease of unusual severity and accompanied by an appalling mortality was raging in a district near Canton; inquiries were made, but at first no definite information was forthcoming as to the features of the disease or its origin, and it was not until the epidemic gradually spread in the direction of the city of Canton that any reliable details were obtained. It was then reported that the disease which was causing such a terrible mortality resembled in its symptoms the scourge known as the "Black Plague" which

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decimated the population of London in the latter half of the 17th century. A medical officer of the Government was accordingly sent up to Canton in order to ascertain the truth of this report by personal observation of the cases under treatment in the native hospitals of that city, and to make a study of the symptoms peculiar to the disease. Upon his return he reported that the disease was undoubtedly that known as the "Bubonic Plague." that it was said to be endemic in certain parts of China, notably in Yun-nan, that it was vaguely termed by the Chinese "wan-yik" or "epidemic," and that there was no record of its appearance in Canton or the immediate neighbourhood in previous years in epidemic form. The origin of the disease in the province of Kwang Tung must always remain a mystery in the absence of any reliable evidence to show that it was imported from those parts of China in which it is said to be endemic. It is possible, of course, that it may have been endemic in the neighbourhood of Canton for years without exciting either the attention or the interest of the Chinese until it assumed an epidemic form, be the case, the prolonged drought which preceded the outbreak and its natural effect upon an overcrowded and insanitary city like Canton, with its narrow streets ranging in breadth from some 12 to 15 feet, and its entire lack of any water or drainage system. were quite enough to call forth into life any latent disease that owes its existence to such conditions. However, whether the plague originated in, or was imported into, Canton, the fact remains that it spread, and continued to spread during the month of April, with alarming rapidity, eventually shaping a southerly course in the direction of this Colony.

Three months elapsed between the outbreak of the plague on the Chinese mainland and its first appearance in Hong Kong. On the 11th May the first note of alarm was sounded in our midst by the medical authorities, who reported that seven undoubted cases of plague had been discovered in the local Chinese hospital known as the Tung Wa hospital. This institution is essentially Chinese, is under a Chinese Directorate, and is conducted by Chinese doctors. It is practically the pauper hospital of the Colony.

Upon the discovery of the disease in the Colony, the provisions of the Public Health Ordinance for the prevention, &c. of epidemic diseases were at once called into force by proclamation, which declared the city of Victoria to be affected by an infectious or contagious disease, and from that date our troubles began in earnest.

The prolonged drought had reduced the water supply to a minimum, there was as yet no sign of rain, and the temperature was gradually rising. Thus local conditions tended to favour the spread of the disease, and it was not surprising to learn two or three days later that it had assumed an epidemic form. The fall of rain within a week tailed to produce the expected result; the disease still continued to claim new victims, and to increase in virulence with the increasing moisture of the atmosphere and with the stirring up of the soil caused by the flow of storm water.

It was evident that the epidemic had gained a firm footing in the most densely populated district of the town, Taipingshan, a district abounding in coolie houses and common lodging-houses, where, despite the vigilance of the sanitary inspectors, the pernicious system of overcrowding and other predisposing conditions tended to foster the disease.

In the meanwhile (as reported in my Despatch 20th June 1894*) the executive committee of the Sanitary Board, which had been appointed to deal with the epidemic, had recognised the urgency of the situation, and, amongst other measures which it had devised with great promptitude, had organised cleansing parties consisting of volunteers from the garrison, under the direction of their officers, for the purpose of whitewashing and disinfecting all houses in which the disease had made its appearance. The medical authorities had also been equally active in making arrangements for suitable hospital accommodation. The hospital hulk Hygeia, ordinarily used for the reception of small-pox cases, had been moored some 200 or 300 yards off the shore opposite a police barracks, situated at the western extremity of the town, which had likewise been converted into a plague hospital; matsheds fitted up in accordance with medical requirements had also been erected in the same locality as temporary hospitals, and a conveniently situated landing stage and suitably equipped boats facilitated the conveyance of patients to and from the floating hospital. In short, the hospital arrangements made by the medical staff were in every way satisfactory from a European point of view. Unfortunately, however, the Chinese do not see things with European eyes and herein lies the story of what was perhaps the greatest difficulty experienced in dealing with the epidemic.

From the first, the Chinese strongly objected to the removal of their sick to hospitals under European management. Educated to insanitary habits, and accustomed from infancy to herd together, they were unable to grasp the necessity of segregation; they were quite content to die like sheep, spreading disease around them so long as they were left undisturbed, and they preferred to see their sick friends and relations suffering unspeakable miseries rather than be parties to their removal to European hospitals,

where every comfort was provided.

These feelings, no doubt the result of blind prejudice and superstition, naturally prompted concealment, which eventually necessitated the organisation of search parties and a system of house-to-house visitation. Harrowing tales are told of how, upon a search party entering a house in which there were cases of sickness, every possible method of evasion and concealment was hurriedly devised. In some instances a dying person was discovered half suffocated under a heap of dirty rags, in others the patient was hurriedly removed through a trap door on to the roof in the hopes of escaping detection and in total disregard of the

Hong Kong. 1894.

consequences of such exposure to the wretched sufferer. Never was Chinese ingenuity put to so sore a test, or exercised in such a

pitiable cause.

Concealment being at length rendered practically impossible by the vigilance of the search parties, who profited by the above experiences, popular feeling among the Chinese gradually intensified and eventually found expression in mischievous stories attributing every imaginable act of cruelty to the foreign doctors, which were made current by means of offensive placards posted freely in the Chinese quarter of the Colony and in the city of Canton, and in the latter place the popular indignation at the alleged sufferings of the Chinese in Hong Kong ran so high as to seriously menace the safety of the European residents in the

foreign settlement.

In this state of affairs every effort was made to pacify and reassure the minds of the Chinese as to the good intentions of the Government and its medical officers towards the sick. Notices were issued by the Government and by the Chinese directors of the Tung Wa Hospital urging the people to place no credence in the idle rumours that were being circulated by mischievous persons, and a similar course was followed by the Chinese authorities in Canton at the instance of Her Majesty's Consul at that Notwithstanding, however, these contradictions and efforts at persuasion, the native mind refused to be disabused of the blind prejudice that possessed it, and further rumours of the gradual spread of anti-foreign feeling in Canton and of a contemplated attack upon the foreign community at that port led to a concession being made which, however undesirable it may have been from a purely medical point of view, was fully justified by the urgency of the occasion and by circumstances generally. allude to the establishment of a temporary plague hospital under the management of Chinese doctors belonging to the staff of the Tung Wa native hospital, but under the supervision of the Government medical staff, the concession being dependent on this latter condition.

The Chinese hospital was established towards the end of May, and thither many of the patients in the Government hospitals were transferred at their own request. The Chinese sick had now the choice of European or native treatment, and although many elected in favour of the former, the vast majority preferred to be attended

by their own countrymen.

At this period, notwithstanding the efforts of the cleansing parties and the other sanitary measures that were being taken to stay the progress of the epidemic, the number of cases reported was daily increasing—a state of things in some measure due perhaps to the fact that since the establishment of the Chinese hospital fewer cases were concealed, and to increased vigilance on the part of the searching parties, but pointing unmistakeably to a general increase of the epidemic. The number of fresh cases rose with alarming rapidity during the month of June from between 20 and 30 daily to 60 and 70, and even to 80 and 90 towards the

latter end of the month, and on one occasion the official returns Hong Kong. for the previous 24 hours recorded the terrible total of 109,

including dead bodies picked up in the streets.

The Executive Committee of the Sanitary Board had not been slow to see that the staff engaged in sanitary operations was inadequate to cope with the progress of the disease, that they were, so to speak, still behind the epidemic, and that an increased staff was necessary to enable them to overtake it. The staff accordingly received a reinforcement of some 150 more volunteers from the garrison, and the work of cleansing and disinfecting, which in the earlier days of the epidemic had been confined to houses in which cases of plague had occurred was now extended to all houses which were reported to be in an insanitary condition. The committee further took the precaution of closing a number of unhealthy habitations and of walling-in several streets in the infected district. These and other sanitary measures produced in due course the desired result, and by the middle of July there was a perceptible decrease in the epidemic. The disease further decreased during the latter half of that month and during the succeeding month of August, until it gradually disappeared in the early days of September, leaving the Colony the ghastly legacy of a death-roll extending to some 2,550 names, including that of the much-lamented Captain Vesey of the Shropshire Light Infantry who, as a volunteer in command of one of the cleansing parties, nobly sacrificed his life in the interests of the Colony.

The above figures represent, of course, only the number of deaths from the disease that occurred in the Colony. It is impossible to say how many persons who fled to their native places only to fall victims there contracted the disease in Hong Kong,

but their number must have been very large.

One or two further incidents in connection with the epidemic, which added to the troubles and difficulties of the Government, may be conveniently recorded here. I have already alluded to the hostile attitude of the Chinese towards the European doctors -an attitude doubtless due to the horror which they have of surgical operations, based on their belief that there is no place in the next world for mutilated bodies, or at least that they must ever remain so mutilated. I have also referred to the beneficial effect produced by the establishment of a Chinese hospital, where patients received Chinese treatment. This effect was unfortunately but short-lived. As the disease progressed, and the number of deaths increased, a further grievance was urged by the native population in connection with the burial of the dead. With the large daily mortality at the height of the epidemic, it was no longer possible to give the same care to each individual grave, and the burying parties had to dispose of the dead by burying the coffins in trenches, with the result that in some cases the friends and relatives were unable to trace at once the graves of their own dead. This was a great shock to the feelings of a people whose chief form of religion consists in the rites and ceremonies of burial, and in the annual worship of the dead, and

375

8

as a consequence popular feeling again found expression in antiforeign placards, accusing the Government of every kind of atrocity and inciting the people to take vengeance on the foreigners So serious was the state of affairs at this time, and so deeply was the responsibility of this Government involved that it became absolutely necessary to consider what form of concession could be granted to allay popular feeling consistently with the

public safety.

The Chinese were clamouring for free and unrestricted removal of plague patients to their homes without any supervision. was, of course, impossible to grant this unreasonable request of an unreasoning and excited people, but arrangements were eventually made, through Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, with the Chinese Benevolent Society in that city for the removal of such inmates of the hospitals as desired to leave the Colony and were pronounced medically fit to bear the fatigue of the journey. Specially-equipped janks were provided for their conveyance and suitable hospital accommodation for their reception in Canton, and the removals were carried out under the supervision of the medical staff.

It was anticipated that the above concession would tend to allay the popular indignation, but the Chinese now clamoured for a further unconditional concession, viz., that plague-stricken persons should be free to leave the Colony at their own will and pleasure without first being obliged to go to hospital and without any restriction or supervision whatever. This was a most preposterous demand, and all the more so seeing that it was made by a deputation of Chinese gentlemen who should have known better than to make it. It was, of course, refused, and the Chinese retaliated by leaving the Colony en masse. Compradores, contractors, shrofts, tradesmen, domestic servants and coolies all joined in the general exodus numbering altogether some 100,000 persons. large sugar refineries stopped working, nearly all the Chinese shops were closed, business generally was at a standstill, and private families were put to the greatest inconvenience for want of servants. No more melancholy sight than that presented by the cityof Victoria at this period can well be imagined. Shops and houses were shut up, and in the usually busy and well-thronged streets the only signs of life were here and there a solitary foot passenger, or the rumbling of a transport waggon proceeding to the hospitals to take up its ghastly freight for conveyance to the cemeteries, or the measured tread of a party of "cleansers" returning from their filthy work in the infected slums.

Some painful sights were witnessed on the various wharves from which the Canton and Macao steamers start. The police had strict orders to prevent plague-stricken persons from leaving the Colony except in accordance with the arrangements sanctioned, and it was their melancholy duty to stop many such persons on the point of embarkation. In some cases the wretched victims, urged by the strong desire to die in their native villages, had collected all their remaining strength for the final effort of

getting on board the steamer only to collapse utterly on gaining Home Kome. the wharf or the gangway under the scrutinising gaze of the police. The anxious expression worn on the faces of the sufferers-too sure an indication of the disease lurking withinled to the detection of the majority; few managed to evade the watchful and experienced eye of the police; fewer, if any, reached their destination alive. Such painful details cannot fail to arouse one's deepest sympathy with the unfortunate sufferers, but the force of circumstances was too strong and the law of necessity too inexorable to admit of indulgence to mere feelings of sentiment and pity at such a time.

As regards the nature of the terrible disease which worked such havoc in our midst, much valuable information is contained in Dr. Lowson's carefully prepared and interesting report on the subject, which I had the honour to forward to Lord Ripon recently. I do not therefore propose to trespass on what is purely medical ground beyond referring to the very valuable discovery of the plague bacillus by Professor Aoyama and Dr. Kitasato, of the Japanese Medical Mission which visited Hong Kong for the purpose of studying the disease. Both these gentlemen conducted their researches with a steady and patient devotion that cannot but command admiration and gratitude, and it was only fitting that their untiring and unselfish efforts in the interests of science should meet with a richly-deserved success. It was an unkind fate that destined Professor Ayoama to have a passive as well as a practical experience of the disease, but that he made a satisfactory recovery under an enlightened treatment of the disease must add considerably to the value of the knowledge which he and his colleague have given to the world.

Experience of the plague has not unnaturally dispelled much of its mystery and robbed it of many of its initial horrors. We now know, thanks to the valuable discovery referred to above, that the disease is caused by a bacillus or plague-germ in the blood, that that germ thrives in a temperature ranging from 60° to 90°, that it is abundantly found in filthy matter of all sorts, and that its great enemy is the sun. We have also a knowledge of the pre-disposing and generating conditions, of the period of incubation (which ranges from six to nine days), and of the extent to which it is contagious under healthy conditions. With this valuable information which has been acquired at such a terrible cost, it is earnestly to be hoped that science will ere long devise some safeguard in the form of inoculation or otherwise against

this disease, as against others.

It was a noticeable feature in the recent epidemic that, whereas only some 18 per cent. on an average of the patients of Eastern extraction recovered, 82 per cent. of the Europeans who were attacked survived. The difference may, of course, be attributable to the fact that the latter cases were carefully treated from the first, whilst many of the former were admitted to hospital in a moribund condition or in such an advanced state of the disease as to render recovery almost hopeless, but, taken with the fact that

Europeans generally enjoyed immunity from the disease, the difference is striking as pointing to the non-susceptibility of Western blood to the plague-germ in its most virulent form.

The above rough outline of the history of the plague epidemic of 1894 would be incomplete without an expression of the indebtedness of the Colony to the officers and men of the army and navy who volunteered their valuable and timely assistance, to the executive committee of the Sanitary Board, to the police, to the civilian volunteers, and lastly but not least to the Medical Staff. The most prominent individual claims on the gratitude of the Colony have already been brought to the notice of the Imperial Government and have received public recognition from the community, and it therefore only remains to add a tribute of praise to all who took an active part in battling with the disease, and to the community generally for the coolness and patience displayed in the face of what at one time threatened to be a very grave public danger.

Effect of the Plague on Trade, &c.

The effects of the epidemic on the trade and general prosperity of the Colony can more easily be imagined than described here. From the 11th May to the 3rd September Hong Kong was under a ban, and, in illustration of the state of affairs which obtained during that melancholy period, I cannot do better than quote the following extract from my despatch of the 20th June 1894*:—

"29. As to the effect of the plague it is felt in every branch of business, and the loss to the public revenue, to bankers, merchants, shipping companies, the sugar refining industry, traders, shop-keepers, owners of property and the labouring classes can never be accurately determined. On the whole, perhaps, the shipping interests are the most affected. At this season the emigrants to the Straits Settlements have hitherto been counted by thousands per month, and the movements of passengers up and down the Chinese Coast, to and from Kwangtung and through Hong Kong usually amount to vast numbers. Pacific mail steamers leaving for Vancouver, Honolulu and San Francisco refuse to take Chinese passengers. The English, French, and German mails refuse to take native passengers, and the two latter decline cargo also, or even to enter the limits of the harbour. Irregular liners avoid calling at the port altogether.

"30. Considering the great importance of Hong Kong as a shipping port, it is only possible to conjecture what is lost by quarantine regulations against her in every direction which drive away vessels from her harbour, and deprive all, down to the humblest labourer, of their proportion of gain from the coaling, victualling, loading and discharging of the immense fleet which

ordinarily frequents these waters.

"31. Chinese hong merchants have retired to the mainland, leaving their premises to caretakers and their commercial engage-

^{*} No. 2 in C. [7545].

ments in abeyance until the public health shall be restored. effect of this is much felt by merchants whose merchandize is left on their hands beyond the contract time, and many have had to call on their bankers to enable them to tide over the lock-up of money. The bankers under such circumstances buy and sell fewer bills, and they witness the contraction of all the ramifications of trade in which they have a financial interest. The turn-over in sugar and sugar-refining is reckoned not by thousands but by millions of dollars, and, although happily not suspended, it is for the moment crippled for want of labour. Landlords in the affected districts of the city receive no rents, and the natives generally in the midst of all their troubles find their necessary articles of food 30, or even 50, per cent. above the usual price.

"32. Without exaggeration, I may assert that, so far as trade and commerce are concerned, the plague has assumed the importance of an unexampled calamity."

With the gradual decrease of the epidemic in the latter part of July, the anticipation of an early removal of quarantine restrictions against Hong Kong shipping, and the expected return of the Chinese to the Colony, there were reasonable grounds for hoping that the recent disastrous period would in some measure be atoned for by a re-action in the commercial world, and that trade would receive a stimulus from the recent inevitable suspension.

Outbreak of War between China and Japan.

This ray of hope was, however, soon rudely obscured by the cloud of war which appeared on the political horizon and which, daily assuming a more threatening aspect, eventually burst into storm on the 1st August. The formal declaration of war between China and Japan on that date was followed by the usual restrictions on, and inconveniences to, neutral commerce, whilst the progress of hostilities produced an unsettled state of affairs which for a time partially paralysed the China markets. To these disadvantages were added obstructions to shipping caused by the measures of coast defence adopted by the Chinese authorities, increasing the difficulties of navigation and involving considerable delay and expense to shipping companies, which naturally resulted n increased rates of freight, passage, and insurance.

Taking, therefore, into consideration the combination of circumstances which penalised Hong Kong merchants during the greater part of the year, it is more than satisfactory to note that the value of the trade between this port and China during an unprecedentedly unfavourable period amounted to 133,217,855 Haekwan Taels (the Haekwan Tael is worth about 3s. 2d.) as against Taels 129,181,223 in 1893 or an increase of Taels 4,036,632, and as a further instance of the gradual expansion of the trade of the Colony with China it may be mentioned that the returns for 1894 show an increase to the value of Haekwan Taels 44,063,627 as compared with those for 1887. The figures for 1894 have, of course, not been unaffected by the appreciation

The Hong Kone. 1894.

of gold which has added considerably to the silver value of imports, but the comparison may be taken as a fair indication that, whilst the import trade from gold standard countries has not fallen off proportionately to the depreciation in silver, the export trade has benefited to the full thereby.

Shipping.

Turning to the shipping of the port, as an indication of the condition of the Colony generally, the returns for 1894 under the unfavourable circumstances recorded, are more than satisfactory. The total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared during the year amounted to 14,248,670 tons, a decrease of 100,452 tons as compared with the returns for 1893, but an increase on 1892 of 95,821 tons.

The decrease as compared with 1893 was distributed as follows:—

	20 30		No.	Tonnage.
Foreign Ships		-	306	66,677
Foreign Junk Trade	-	-	1,336	5,883
Local Junk Trade			1,408	27,892

It is almost certain, judging from the shipping returns for the first quarter of 1894, that instead of the above decrease there would have been an increase over 1893 of some 700,000 tons but for the visitation of the plague and the severity of the quarantine restrictions universally enforced against Hong Kong, which kept many vessels from entering the harbour. During June, July, and August, for instance, the large mail steamers of the Messageries Maritimes Co. would neither enter the port nor take cargo or passengers from Hong Kong. The P. & O. S. N. Co. followed suit in the latter respect, and several other large companies similarly "boycotted" the Colony.

British shipping still reigns supreme in Eastern waters, and in the year under review represented over 70 per cent. of the total tonnage of foreign ships entered and cleared at this port. It is also satisfactory to note in this connection that, notwith-standing that 106 fewer vessels flying the British ensign entered and cleared, there was an actual increase in the tonnage of British shipping of some 46,200 tons in 1894, as compared with 1893, a result to be attributed to the gradual supersession of

smaller by larger and more powerful vessels.

Passenger Traffic.

The passenger traffic returns show a marked decrease on the previous year, but compare favourably with the returns for 1892 and preceding years. The number of emigrants amounted only

to some 46,000 as against 82,000, and the number of arrivals Hong Kong to 96,000 as compared with 108,000 in 1893. Although sickness must have been in a large measure responsible for this falling off,. the returns for 1894 would doubtless have been considerably larger had not the various shipping companies been debarred from carrying passengers by the severity of the quarantine restrictions universally enforced.

On the whole, the experiences of the year 1894 have affected the shipping interests of the Colony to a considerable extent, but, notwithstanding this interruption, the progress of the business of the port of Hong Kong during the past quarter of a century has been steady and satisfactory, as evidenced by the fact that since 1869 the annual returns of the shipping have nearly been trebled, whilst the passenger traffic returns have been more than quadrupled. There is every reason to hope, therefore, that, in the absence of a recurrence of recent misfortunes, this progress will be maintained in future years, and that Hong Kong, which is already the third largest port in the world, will eventually advance yet higher on the list.

Finances.

Notwithstanding the fact that every opposing circumstance was present during 1894, the revenue for the year reached the surprising total of \$2,287,203.32, the largest sum hitherto collected in any single year. This very satisfactory result was, of course, partly due to one or two extraordinary receipts, e.g., the accumulation of interest on the unexpended balance of the loan raised in 1893, but after deducting these items there still remains a handsome increase on the revenue for the preceding year, chiefly derived from stamps, permits, licences, postage, and profits on subsidiary coins, the last-mentioned item alone producing an increase of \$54,682 as compared with 1893.

The total expenditure for the year, inclusive of public works extraordinary chargeable to current revenue, amounted to \$2,299,096 or \$11,893 in excess of the revenue. As compared with the preceding year the expenditure for 1894 shows an increase of \$378,572, nearly the whole of which is accounted for by the fall in exchange, which materially affected payments in sterling and involved the extra charge of exchange compensation to Government servants, and by the large expenditure incurred in battling with the plague epidemic, which latter item alone exceeded \$150,000. Taking, therefore, the above circumstances into consideration and the fact that the revenue suffered severely during the months of June, July, and August, the financial results of the year 1894 cannot but be regarded as an eminently satisfactory indication of the vitality of the Colony.

The item of \$150,000 referred to above represents, of course, only a fraction of what the plague must eventually cost the Colony. Under the heading "Legislation" in the Blue Book will be found an Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance for the Summary Resump1894.

"tion of certain Crown Lands situate in the Taipingshan District of the City of Victoria and for other purposes," which by the light of the foregoing remarks on the epidemic needs little explanation here. It is enough to state that this district (which at the time of writing has already been resumed by the Crown) is that in which the plague wrought the greatest havoc, and an idea of the value of the property may be gained from the fact that the Government has had to pay some \$800,000 for the resumption of an area extending over some 400,000 square feet.

It is perhaps beyond the scope of this despatch to deal with current and prospective events, but I may limit myself to the remark, as a further instance of the satisfactory financial condition of the Colony, that the above large sum has been defrayed entirely from balances in hand. The work of improvement and the prospective financial results arising from the resumption of the above-mentioned area belong to the future, and cannot be appro-

priately discussed here.

Conversion of the Loan.

During the year a financial transaction of some importance was effected satisfactorily by the Crown agents, to whom the thanks of this Government are due, viz., the conversion of the unredeemed balance of the loan of 200,000l., raised under authority of Ordinance No. 11 of 1886 by the issue of 4 per cent. Debentures, into $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Inscribed Stock, thus bringing it into uniformity with the further loan of 200,000l. raised in 1893. The Public Debt of the Colony now stands at 341,800l. bearing interest at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 140,000l., of the first loan having been converted, and the balance of 60,000l. redeemed from the Sinking Fund provided for the purpose. The amount of 1,800l. over and above the sum of 340,000l, thus accounted for represents extra stock issued in connection with the expenses of conversion. The ultimate gain to the Colony from the above transaction is estimated at something over 3,000l., and the other advantages are sufficiently apparent to render comment unnecessary.

Financial Progress of the Colony,

Whilst on the subject of the finances of the Colony, a comparison between the revenues for the years 1869 and 1894 may be of interest as an indication of its progress in this respect. The revenue in 1869 amounted to \$923,653 and the population to some 121,000. In 1894 the revenue, as stated above, reached a total of \$2,287,208, and the population was estimated at some 246,000. It will thus be seen that there has been an advance both in the amount of the revenue and in the number of the population and that the per caput contribution to the public purse remains to-day very much the same as it was 25 years ago—a satisfactory proof that, despite the increase in revenue, the burden

on the individual resident is as light as ever, viz., between \$8 and Hong Kong. \$9 a head.

1894.

It is not possible to trace here the direct incidence of taxation or to prove that any particular class has not gained at the expense of others, but it may be assumed that, whilst the additional taxation which has been imposed during the last 25 years may have fallen directly more hardly upon one class of the community than upon another, the process of filtration through which all taxation passes until it indirectly touches all classes preserves the balance, so to speak, of its incidence, and the above comparison may therefore be taken as a reliable illustration of the constancy of individual

contributions to the revenue during the last 25 years.

Again, taking the respective sterling value of the revenues for the years 1869 and 1894 as an indication of the effect on Colonial finances of the recent steady decline in the value of the dollar, the year 1869 produced an income in sterling of 192,464l, whilst the exceptionally large revenue collected in 1894 (taking the dollar at two shillings as a convenient and approximate average rate for the year) is represented in gold by some 228,7201., or an increase of 36,256l. in 25 years, during which period payments in sterling have necessarily become considerably more numerous. Looking at the financial position of the Colony from this point of view, the state of affairs would appear to be less satisfactory than it was a quarter of a century ago, but, seeing that the bulk of the Colony's liabilities are incurred locally and discharged in silver, the position is purely a fictitious one for practical purposes, and is only useful as an illustration of what the financial position of Hong Kong might have been but for the depreciation in silver.

The Public Health, &c.

The mortality statistics of a year darkened by the visitation of a disastrous epidemic must necessarily disclose an increase in the death-rate and compare unfavourably with those of previous years. It is not surprising, therefore, to find that the total number of deaths from all causes recorded in 1894 amounted to 7,362, giving a death-rate of 30.3 per 1,000 as against 23.3 in 1893 and 21.3 in The number of deaths reported from plague amounted to 2,552, or over 10 per 1,000, leaving a balance of 4,810 deaths due to ordinary causes or less than 20 per 1,000. It thus appears that but for the plague, which is the key-note of all our misfortunes, the year 1894 would have shown a death-rate lower than that of the remarkably healthy year of 1892, and very far below that of other years.

Against the above mortality returns, the number of births registered in 1894 was 1,455, giving a birth-rate of 5.91 per thousand of the estimated population. The difference between the birth and death-rate would with a normal population point to a considerable decrease in the population during the year, but, as a matter of fact, it is estimated that there was little, if any, decrease in this respect, the vacancies in the labour market being filled as

fast as they occurred, and there being a constantly increasing demand for labourers.

The lesson taught by the sad experience of the plague has been very bitter, but it is being turned to the best account. effort is being put forward to remedy the defects in sanitation which have recently been revealed: steady progress is being made with the re-drainage of the city of Victoria, and a general inspection of house drains was instituted in December last. addition to this, legislative measures have been taken to compel householders to carry out extensive sanitary improvements on their properties in accordance with local requirements and with a special view to preventing a recurrence of the epidemic, and, as has been already stated, the Government has itself undertaken the improvement of a large and hitherto unhealthy district in the centre of the city. The necessity of increasing the existing water supply to meet the requirements of a daily growing population and to tide over the apparently lengthening periods of drought has also been recognised from recent experiences, and the work of adding to the storage capacity of our largest reservoir is now far advanced.

It is to be hoped that with all these precautions the Colony may be spared a repetition of the calamity which befel it in the summer of 1894, and that there may be an improvement generally in the public health; but the habits of the lower classes of Chinese, who form the larger half of the population, and the difficulty of instilling into them any ideas of cleanliness, must always be a source of great anxiety to the sanitary authorities and render the strictest vigilance at all times imperative.

Public Peace and Good Order.

The Police returns for the year are satisfactory and show a decrease in the number of both serious and minor offences as compared with previous years, there being 2,575 cases of the former (of which over 2,100 were cases of larceny) as against 2,725 in 1893, and 2,983 in 1892, or a criminal class of rather less than one

per cent. of the population.

There was, however, a serious breach of the public peace in the month of March which deserves special notice, resulting as it did in one man being shot dead in the street and nine others more or less seriously wounded. It appears that during the celebration of the Chinese Feast of Lanterns, which is usually made the occasion of a grand procession through the streets, some coolies from the Tung Koon and Sz Yap districts of China came into collision, an incident which served to arouse the dormant ill-feelings between the two tribes or clans. The quarrel was at once taken up by certain clubs, the members of which consist for the most part of professional fighting men and bullies, and these latter, constituting themselves the champions of either party, carried on for a period of four days a form of guerilla warfare and committed the most

385

barefaced assaults in broad daylight and in the most frequented thoroughfares upon any unoffending individual members of the opposite faction whom they might chance to meet. These assaults appear to have been timed so as to elude the vigilance of the police and the armed patrols, and the numerous eyewitnesses were intimidated into silence. In the meanwhile some 12,000 coolies ceased work through fear of exposing themselves to attack, and for four days all work on board the steamers in the harbour was suspended. Peace was eventually restored by the arrest of 13 men who were found carrying arms in the streets and were doubtless implicated in the riot, and by a thorough police search of all suspected coolie-houses and clubs, which led to the flight of the ringleaders, and the coolies eventually returned to work, after some persuasion, under police protection.

The disturbance had no political significance—clan fights in China being of frequent occurrence and often resulting in considerable loss of life—but it caused a serious inconvenience to the shipping, and revealed the existence in our midst of a class of ruffians dangerous to the safety of the community, the most prominent of whom have since been banished from the Colony. It further revealed the necessity of imposing additional restrictions on the sale of arms and of introducing a law for the registration of Chinese clubs, and steps have been, or are being, taken in those

directions accordingly.

There were also 9 serious gang robberies during the year, and except in one case the perpetrators of these outrages made good their escape. Unhappily the only robbery in which the police were successful in bringing the offenders to justice was attended by loss of life—an Indian constable and a Chinese coolie being shot dead in the affray which followed the discovery of the thieves. Two of the gang were eventually hanged for murder, and three others were sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment with hard labour.

The difficulties of the police in preventing these crimes or in tracing the offenders can only be fairly estimated with a knowledge of local circumstances. The assailants are in most cases apparently respectable Chinese, dressed in the orthodox long coat with voluminous sleeves, which afford a convenient place of concealment for fire-arms or other deadly weapons; they enter a Chinese shop, ostensibly for the purpose of making a purchase, and, taking the unsuspecting shopmen unawares, throw pepper or some other substance in their eyes, and, covering them with revolvers, proceed to ransack the shop for money or other valuables. Active resistance is seldom, if ever, offered, and, after collecting their spoils and intimidating the wretched storekeeper and his staff into silence, the thieves take their departure in the quietest manner. Thus, unless they are caught red-handed, the police rarely, if ever, have a fair opportunity of arresting these criminals through lack of timely information. In many instances no report is made of these crimes until days after their occurrence. There is, perhaps, no Colony in which police duties are so varied and so responsible

as in Hong Kong. The Chinese criminal, and his name is legion, is a veritable desperado, and the proximity of the mainland of China, where there is little, if any, police system, affords a secure and convenient basis of operations to numerous bands of robbers who constitute an ever-present danger to the Colony and render the maintenance of a large and efficient police force here absolutely necessary.

The Climate, Weather, &c.

Perhaps the most treacherous feature in the climate of Hong Kong is the sudden and almost hourly change of temperature which takes place, more especially in the dry season. A remarkable instance of this is furnished by the readings of the thermometer in March 1894, the maximum temperature registered during that month being 79.2 and the minimum 49.6, or a difference of nearly 30 degrees. The highest temperature during the year was recorded in September, the thermometer registering 92.9 in that month, and the lowest reading, 41.4, was registered in the month of February.

The weather during the year calls for some comment. The dry season lasted longer than usual, extending far into May, and the backwardness of the wet weather at one time threatened a serious scarcity of water. All anxiety on this account was, however, dispelled by a copious fall of rain on the 12th May, which continued, with the usual intervals of fine weather, until the end of October, the total rainfall for the year amounting to some 104 inches, to which November and December contributed but

the fraction of an inch.

Typhoons.

Towards the latter end of September and during the first week of October, the Colony experienced no less than three typhoons within as many weeks. The first two were not serious and may be dismissed with the bare record of their occurrence, but the third, which occurred on the 5th October, is said to have been

almost as severe as the memorable storm of 1874.

The typhoon appears to have passed over the island of Luzon on the 2nd October, travelling W.N.W. at an average speed of 10 miles an hour until at noon, on the 5th October the centre was some 50 miles south of Macao. At this point it appears to have taken a more northerly course, embracing Hong Kong in the right-hand semicircle. For no less than 30 hours the Colony experienced a very strong gale veering from N.E. to S.W., which increased to typhoon force between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., the barometer falling to 29.20 at 5 p.m., at which time the centre of the storm was said to be passing over Macao, a distance of some 30 to 40 miles. Owing to the breakage of the Observatory anemograph, the velocity of the wind could not be accurately ascertained, but it is estimated that some of the gusts at the height

of the storm must have had a velocity at the rate of 89 miles an hour.

Hong Kong. 1894.

Some damage was done to property, several houses being unroofed and some partially demolished, but the more substantial buildings remained intact, and the results of the storm were more noticeable in the deplorable wreckage of the beautiful public gardens and the uprooting of several very fine old trees, some of them being more than 43 years old and measuring over six feet in circumference of stem. Much of this damage was doubtless due to the heavy rain which fell during the storm, over 10 inches falling during 24 hours.

Happily there was no damage done to shipping, beyond the stranding of a few junks and small Chinese craft, and no loss of life occurred, a result due to the timely information furnished by the Manila Observatory authorities, and to the local system of giving warning of the approach of typhoons by the hoisting of signals differing in shape and colour according to the direction and distance of the storm, and by firing guns as danger signals.

Afforestation.

It remains to record one more occurrence during the year 1894 which is worthy of special mention. Concurrently with the epidemic of bubonic plague, and as though Nature had purposely designed a retaliatory attack on the vegetable world by the animal world, a pest of caterpillars committed terrible ravages on the pine trees, which are such a conspicuous feature of the Colony, and which have been planted and reared at considerable cost. The assailant was the caterpillar of the large moth known as Eutricha Punctata, and its large numbers first attracted attention in the month of April. The necessity of taking timely steps for its destruction was immediately recognised, and Chinese villagers were hired to collect the caterpillars and paid in proportion to the quantity collected. In this manner some 35,000,000 insects were collected and destroyed, and within a period of two months the scourge was, temporarily at least, got rid of.

This particular species of caterpillar is said to be well known on the mainland of China, but its appearance in the Colony was remarked for the first time in 1892. In 1893 it re-appeared in considerably increased numbers, and some 30,000 trees were killed by its ravages. And in 1894 its numbers had further increased to an extent which at one time threatened the destruction

of all the pine trees in the Colony.

It has been suggested that the cause of this marked increase in the number of these caterpillars since 1892 is due to the extinction of some unknown natural enemy during the very severe winter of 1892 and the close resemblance of the insects in marking and colour to the branches of the pine tree, pointing to a form of protection against some other insect or bird, lends credit to this view.

It is satisfactory to note that, owing to timely operations, a very small per-centage of the many thousands of trees attacked have been killed, and the Colony has thus been spared an irreparable loss, for it is generally acknowledged that besides adding greatly to the natural beauty and attractiveness of the island our pine trees have also added considerably to the healthiness of the climate.

Conclusion.

The above review of the year 1894 speaks for itself, and needs little, if any, comment. To borrow a simile from the greatest disaster which occurred within it, the history of the year is essentially the history of a malignant disease permeating every channel of the Colony's life blood and arresting circulation for a while; but it is also the history of a marvellous recovery, indicating a wonderful vital power. To some the experiences of the year will furnish food for bitter disappointment at the nonfulfilment of great promises and possibilities; to others, who take a more optimistic view of things, they will lend additional confidence in the resources of the Colony, and renewed hope for the future. For myself, looking backward to the past melancholy experience, and forward to the good that must result therefrom, I am tempted to remark,—Forsan et hæc olim meminisse juvabit.

I have, &c.
WILLIAM ROBINSON,
Governor.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 161.

JAMAICA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894-5

(For Report for 1893-4, see No. 134 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



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1896.

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130	British Bechuanaland				-	1893-4	
131	British New Guinea	• •	•			1892-3 & 1893-4	
132	Lagos					1893	
133	British Guiana -					1893-4	
134	Jamaica -						
135	Newfoundland -					1893	
136	Gold Coast					"	
137	Zululand					1894	
138	Bermuda					,,	
139	Bahamas					,,	
140	Barbados -				-	,,	
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150	Lagos	-	•	•		"	
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152	Basutoland -	•		all Sept	•	1894-5	
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154	St. Helena -	•	•		-	"	
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157	Labuan -			-	-	>>	
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159	British Guiana -	•		•		"	
160	Sierra Leone -	-	10 - 11			"	

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.			Subject.		
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No. 161.

JAMAICA.

JAMAICA. 1894-5.

(For Report for 1893-4 see No. 134.)

SIR H. A. BLAKE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN,

King's House, Jamaica, Sir, October 11, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you the accompanying Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year ended 31st March last.

I have, &c.
HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

REPORT ON THE JAMAICA BLUE BOOK, 1894-5.

Legislation.

During the session of 1895, the Legislative Council passed 27 laws, of which the following are the most important:—

Law 4 of 1895—"The Banker's Books Evidence Law, 1895," is a transcript of the English Law 42 and 43 Victoria, Chapter II., and facilitates the giving of evidence in regard to entries in banker's books.

Law 11 of 1895—"The Public General Holidays Law, 1895," provides for the establishment and observance of public general

Law 12 of 1895—"The Sale of Goods Law, 1895." This law is an adaptation of the Imperial Act, 56 and 57 Victoria, Chapter 71, codifying the law bearing on the most important class of contracts

Law 13 of 1895—Empowers the Governor to raise 100,000l. for the construction of driving roads in the mountainous districts of the parishes of St. Andrew, Portland, and St. Thomas, as a means of assisting in the development of the resources of those districts.

Law 21 of 1895—"The Constabulary Pension Law, 1895." A law to relieve the Constabulary Pension Fund and to secure o 89390. Wt. 20348.

JAMAICA. 1894-5. to constables the payment of the pensions promised on their enlistment.

Law 24 of 1895—"A Law to regulate and restrict the wearing of Naval and Military Uniforms." This law is an adaptation of the English Uniforms Act, 1894, and was introduced by direction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Law 26 of 1895—"A Law to secure a Civil List for Her Majesty and for other purposes." This law was enacted as a preliminary to an amendment of the Constitution of the Island granting extended representation in the Legislative Council.

Law 27 of 1895—"The Tramways Law, 1895." This law is founded in great measure on the Imperial Act, 33 and 34 Victoria, Chapter 78. It empowers the Governor in Privy Council to grant licenses for any tramway drawn or propelled by any motive power except steam generated by fire on the line; and provides generally the conditions under which tramways may be constructed and wo ked.

Finance.

The year commenced with a surplus general revenue of 59,830l. and yielded 624,024l., making together a sum of 683,854l., while the expenditure, including 36,747l. for sinking funds and 2,300l. for redemption of debt, amounted to 619,850l., thus leaving at the close of the year a surplus of 64,004l.

The parochial revenues, which are devoted to parochial roads, poor relief, sanitary and other local services, and are administered by the several parochial boards, produced 127,551l., a decrease of

1,168*l*. on the receipts in 1893-4.

The revenue specially appropriated for the reconstruction and maintenance of certain main roads under Law 17 of 1890 amounted to 32,234l. or 434l. more than in 1893-4, and the revenue on account of immigration realized 2,139l., an increase of 768l. on the previous year's receipts.

The usual table showing the whole of the revenue receipts in the year under report compared with those of the previous year is given below:—

	_			1894-5.	1893-4.	Increase.	Decrease
	May.	100		£	£	£	£
Import duties	-			341,360	315,941	25,419	The state of the
Light dues	-		-	2,330	2,259	71	
Harbour master's	fees		-	2,839	2,776	63	
Rum duties	-	-	-	138,923	127,479	11,444	
Licenses -	-	-	W. 149	776	779	-	3
Stamps -	-	-	-	20,133	22,394	-	2,261
Tax on stock	-		-	4	11		7
Tax in lieu of edu	cation	fees	-	12,260	12,478		218
Tax	reven	ue		518,625	484,117	36,997	2,489
				The state of		34,508	

5

	1894-5.	1893-4.	Increase.	Decrease
	£	£	£	£
Postal revenue	21,886	20,285	1,601	
Telegraph revenue	5,783	6,087		304
Court fees	9,048	8,665	383	
rines and forfeitures	4,432	5,451	3 - 1 <u>24 3 - 3</u>	1,019
nterest on securities for sinking funds.	12,442	11,581	861	
nterest on Savings Bank invest- ment after paying depositors	3,995	3,348	647	
Interest other than as above -	6,189	6,969	-	780
Interest, Jamaica railway bonds -	32,442	6,774	364	6,774
Reimbursements	9,183	32,078 11,775	- 304	2,592
Non tax revenue	105,400	113,013	3,856	11,469
Total	624,025	597,130	26,895	7,613
			20,893	Maria N.
Revenue Specially appropriated.				
Main Road Revenue.				
Land tax, Law 17 of 1890 -	388	363	25	
Oraft Horned Stock law	958	915	43	
Holdings tax	14,021	14,388	-	367
Spirit licenses	16,867	16,134	733	
	32,234	31,800	801	367
	Parette.		434	
Reimbursements of loan expenditure.	19,266	105,995		86,729
		14 3667		
Parochial Revenue.		4		
Parochial road tax	47,111	50,169		3,058
Kingston streets tax	3,415	3,054	361	
Parochial municipal revenues -	13,181	12,290	891	
Parochial general purposes -	3,318	2,948	370	
Poor rates	42,923	42,189	734	
Sanitary rates	8,327	9,151	- 186	824
Fire rates	956	1,466		510
Gas rates	3,446 4,874	2,523 4,929	923	55
	127,551	128,719	3,279	4,447
		Table 4		1,168
Immigration Revenues.	1.000	824	1,106	
Law 7 of 1878. Amendment Law 14 of 1881.	1,930	all a serio.	1,100	
Miscellaneous	75 134	158 389	12	83 255
	2,139	1,371	1,106	338
			768	W1 1-2 1 1 1 2 4

	1894–5.	1893–4.	Increase.	Decrease.
Summary.	£	£	£	0
General revenue	624,025	597,130	26,895	£
Specially appropriated revenue -	32,234	31,800	434	No. of the last
Reimbursement of loan expenditure.	19,266	105,995	-	86,729
Appropriated revenues	127,551	128,719		1,168
Immigration revenue	2,139	1,371	768	
	805,215	865,015	28,097	87,897
				59,800

The yield of general revenue shows a net increase of 26,895%. which is due to larger returns in import duties and rum duties under tax revenue, and in postal and interest on securities held for sinking funds, and for Savings Bank, under non-tax revenue. Of these, import duties and rum duties are the most important. showing an increase of 25,419l. and 11,444l. respectively, which is the result of increased duties imposed by Laws 12 and 13 of The other items of increase are small and do not call for any remarks.

Of the decreases, the more appreciable are: in stamps 2,261/.; fines and forfeitures, 1,019l.; interest on Jamaica railway bonds, 6,774l.; and miscellaneous, 2,592l. 'The revenue from stamps has to bear a comparison with the exceptionally large return in the previous year. The decrease occurs chiefly in legacy and probate

duties.

No interest was paid on Jamaica railway second mortgage bonds and the decrease is the amount of the interest paid in 1893-4. There is no particular cause to be ascribed to the

falling off on other heads of the revenue.

Reimbursements of loan expenditure shows a large decrease of 86,729l.; and parochial revenue a small decrease of 1,168l. The latter is due to a falling off in receipts from the parochial road tax, and the sanitary and fire rates. These two latter rates are fixed annually and the receipts therefore fluctuate with the rate assessed.

The following is a similar comparative statement of the Treasury

disbursements compared with 1893-4:-

		1894-5.	1893-4.	Increase.	Decrease.
		£	£	£	£
Charges of debt	-	80,946	79,661	1,285	Service and the service and th
	-	16,259	14,438	1,821	STATE OF THE STATE
Administrative departments	-	43,706	45,235		1,529
2 7 1	-	2,904	2,889	15	de la contraction de la contra
_	-	38,025	37,026	999	A THE TIEST OF THE
Postal service	-	25,060	23,520	1,540	
Telegraph service -	-	7,073	6,909	164	
Judicial	-	43,000	43,829		829
Ecclesiastical	-	3,885	3,824	61	
	-	57,822	57,445	377	
Constabulary	-	53,140	51,255	1,885	

	1894–5.	1893-4.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
risons	20,045	20,751		706
eformatories	4,618	4,772		154
ducation	67,546	70,329	_	2,783
ndustrial schools	969	1,237		268
arbours and pilotage	1,860	1,755	105	200
lilitary	11,652	9,527	2,125	
oasting service	1,800	1,800	2,120	
team communication with Halifax	1,000	292		292
elegraph subsidy	2,000	2,000		292
egistrar-General's Department -	4,175	4,191		10
egistrar of Titles' Department -	855	844	11	16
land Record Office	1,482		115	
D' ' M		1,367		
amaica Institute	7,569	7,550	19	
oard of Supervision -	2,102	1,784	318	
	432	417	15	
a:1	5,061	5,401		340
liscellaneous	1,917	1,057	860	
	9,253	21,016	-	11,763
ublic works	63,316	56,201	7,115	
allway extension track	-	7,191	-	7,191
ighthouses	991	1,166	_	175
ghthouse construction	1,340	1,092	248	
	580,803	587,771	19,078	26,046
Main Road Expenditure under				6,968
Law 17 of 1890.	Cal Provide			(SCHOOL)
faintenance	29,557	33,274	_	3,717
anks	4		4	
	29,561	33,274	4	3,717
		4.05		3,713
Appropriated Expenditure.	Section 1	(Inches)		Maio Dein
arochial roads	44,499	50,070	A LESSON	5,571
ingston streets	2,022	1,110	912	0,011
arochial municipal objects	11,381	11,501		120
rochial general purposes	7,500	5,816	1,684	120
elief of the poor	45,886	42,975	2,911	
anitary appropriation	8,004	9,054	2,311	1.050
ire appropriation, Kingston	1,503	1,468	35	1,050
as appropriation, Kingston -	3,097	2,981	116	
ingston Streets Fund	22,300	- 2,301	22,300.	die and
	146,192	124,975	27,958	6,741
		Table 1 to 1	-	
			21,217	STEEL STATE OF STATE
amigration expenditure -	11,135	7,677	3,458	
Expenditure from Loans.				
ortland bridges	3,324	16,598		13,274
elegraph construction		21		21
lain road reconstruction -	16,678	16,926		248
amaica bridges, Law 20 of 1892 -	25,525	20,853	4,672	243
ublic Buildings, Law 6 of 1893	8,785		8,785	
and 40 of 1894.		CA PARCE	0,700	ALL STEPHEN
	54,312	54,398	13,457	13,543
	04,012	04,000	10.401	10.043

8

Janaica. 1894-5.

		1894-5.	1893-4.	Increase.	Decrease.
Summary.		£	£	£	£
General expenditure -	-	580,803	587,771	_	6,968
Main road expenditure -		29,561	33,274	- 35	3,713
Appropriated expenditure -	2	146,192	124,975	21,217	
Immigration expenditure -		11,135	7,677	3,458	
Expenditure from loans -		54,312	54,398		86
		822,000	808,095	24,675	10,767
				13,912	

The expenditure of the Colony from general revenue shows a net decrease of 6,968l.

The chief cause of the decrease will be found under Miscellaneous, which shows 11,763/. less than in the previous year. This is due to the exceptionally large payment made to the railway company on the judgment of the Supreme Court, in the matter of stores; and the writing off of the balance of the loan made from general revenue towards the Jamaica exhibition. On the other hand, the largest increase (7,1151.) occurs in public works, and is due to the larger vote under this head which the state of the finances permitted; other items of increase being under 'Debt," owing to the payment of interest due on account of the previous year; "Pensions," due to additional pensions and the payment of an accumulated pension; "Postal Service," due to extension of the department "Constabulary," for increase of staff and purchase of uniforms, a boat, ammunition and articles for repairing arms; and 'Military," due to an increase of the rates of import duty allowances under Law 2 of 1895, as well as to an increase in the number of men.

Main road expenditure under Law 17 of 1890 shows a decrease of 3,713l. due to diminution of the operations of Law 17 of 1890.

Appropriated expenditure shows a net increase of 21,217l., due especially to a transfer of 22,300l. to the Kingston Streets Improvement Fund.

Immigration shows an increase of 3,4581, due to the expenses connected with the transport of immigrants by the "Volga" and "Jumna."

Pensions.

Pensions amounting to 1,235l. were granted under the provisions of Law 34 of 1885 and the resolution of the Legislative Council, dated the 23rd October 1887, while the pension list was relieved by the deaths of pensioners to the extent of 994l. 7s. 7d.

Debt.

JAMAICA. 1894-5.

42,240*l.* was raised under Laws 7 of 1881, 1 of 1891, and 7 of 1894 by the issue of local inscribed stock under Law 33 of 1894 for the construction of bridges in St. Thomas, Portland, and St. Mary. The amount realized from premiums was 2,555*l.*, the minimum rate being 106.

The public debt directly secured on the general revenue stood as follows at the close of each of the last 10 years, after making allowance in each year for the sinking funds actually invested for

the eventual redemption of debt:

					£	s.	d.
1885	- 27	-4457	102-01-01	-	1,427,458	14	2
1886	-	- 1		-	1,478,790	3	8
1887	A				1,491,993	3	9
1888	48-31	-	-		1,502,684	9	8
1889		-		-	1,506,883	6	0
1891	1			-	1,458,221	12	7
1892			-	-	1,520,088	4	3
1893	A Jahr		-	-	1,523,944	2	11
1894		-		-	1,672,299	14	6
1895	1		-	-	1,678,744	11	2

Of the above amount of debt on the 31st March last 765,871l. 15s. 9d. was on account of the railway purchase, reconstruction and extension, and 126,500l. on account of the Rio Cobre Canal.

The following are the amounts due for debentures guaranteed by the general revenue raised on account of the several undertakings specified:—

					£
Kingston	and Liguanea	a Water	Works	-	128,200
Kingston	markets -		alfa -	-	20,000
Kingston	gasworks -	-	- 1	-	30,000
	slaughter-hou	se -	5 mm - 15		10,000

Legislative Council.

The Council was in session when the year opened; that session closed on the 2nd May 1894.

A new session opened on the 12th February 1895, and continued

beyond the close of the year under review.

Major-General Hallowes, Commander of the Forces, and Mr. Frederick Evans, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, were sworn and took their seats as exofficio members of the Council on 12th February 1895.

The Council met 55 times during the period from the 3rd

April 1894, to the end of the year 1894-5.

Public Works.

The total expenditure on public works of all kinds including the cost of administration and supervision, was 163,628l. 16s. 1d.

The main roads, the bridges, and public buildings throughout the island were maintained in good order and many works of

improvement effected.

Since 1889 the length of main roads has been increased from $752\frac{1}{2}$ miles to $1,839\frac{3}{4}$ miles, upwards of 100 new bridges have been built, many of them of considerable dimensions—such as the bridge over the Rio Grande in Portland with 6 spans of 80 feet each, and the bridge over the Rio Minho in Vere with a single span of 240 feet; many miles of additional telegraph lines have been erected and numerous public buildings have been built.

The average cost per mile for maintenance of main roads was 36l. 4s., being 2l. 9s. more than last year. This is mainly due to heavy flood damages. The Public Works Department now effects an appreciable saving of expenditure by having its own carts and mules for work on the roads instead of hiring as was formerly the practice.

The reconstruction of parochial roads taken over from the parishes under Law 17 of 1890 was continued during the year, and the actual length taken over as main roads up to the close of

the year under review was 982 miles, $10\frac{1}{9}$ chains.

The construction of bridges authorised by Law 20 of 1892, was also continued and the expenditure on this item was 25,537l. 17s. 11d. At the close of the year 47 out of the 89 bridges authorised by the law were completed and 23 were in course of construction.

The extension of the St. Thomas interior main road from the Johnson river at Serge Island, in the Blue Mountain Valley, to Bath was commenced, and satisfactory progress was made with the work. When completed, this road will open up a very fertile and well populated district.

Considerable progress was made in the work of enlarging the

St. Catherine District Prison.

The lighthouses at Plumb Point, Morant Point and Folly Point were maintained with regularity and efficiency, and the work of constructing the lighthouse at Negril Point was proceeded with, and was nearing completion at the end of the year under report. It is now in operation.

The telegraph lines throughout the island were maintained in fair order. The lines are generally being remodelled and provided with poles of a more durable nature than those originally used.

Crown Lands.

Two notifications of 20,772 acres of lands liable to forfeiture for non-payment of quit rent and land tax have been issued.

18,274 acres were forfeited in the same period.

There are about 200,000 acres of forfeitable land in the island, the forfeiture of which the Surveyor General estimates will occupy about 10 years, the proceedings in respect of each notification taking about two years to complete.

The total rents received from Government lands and buildings amounted to 1,242l. 9s. 3d., and the total sales to 421l.

JAMAICA. 1894-5.

Railway Lands.

A great portion of the year was occupied in lawsuits with dissatisfied claimants for compensation for land being acquired along the railway extension to Port Antonio. Of 505 cases, 476 were amicably settled, five cases were settled in court, and 19 compromised, in most cases at or near the amounts previously offered by the Government. There are now only five unsettled cases on this track.

On the Montego Bay extension, 373 cases have been settled by

agreement and 15 cases are still unsettled.

The cost of both tracks to date is 49,936l. 16s. 5d. an average of 46l. 6s. 7d. per acre, the Port Antonio track costing 60l. 12s. 4d. per acre, and the Montego Bay track 38l. 5s. 4d. per acre.

The Port Antonio track passed through 5 towns and numerous villages and settlements besides large properties, almost the whole

being either good cultivated or building land.

The Surveyor-General estimates that the total cost of both

tracks will probably not exceed 65,000l.

The expenditure on railway lands during the year was more than double that of any previous year, owing to the great number

of claims on both tracks actually settled for.

Between the 7th October 1893, and the 28th February 1894, the West India Improvement Company were authorised to enter upon $37\frac{1}{2}$ miles and by the 1st January 1895, they were actually in possession of the whole $54\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Rio Cobre Canal.

The revenue earned during the year was 3,341l. 3s. $2\frac{1}{2}d$., and the cost of management, including salaries, was 1,434l. 0s. 4d. leaving a balance of 1,906l. 12s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$.

Extensions of channels amounting to about two miles were carried through, the total length of the canals maintained by the

Public Works Department being now about 37 miles.

There was an increase in the supply of water of about 20 per cent. during the year, with a prospect of a still further large demand. The revenue from this increase will not, however, come in till next year. The increased supply was mostly for the cultivation of bananas. At the end of the year nearly 800 acres of bananas were under irrigation, and the Director of Public Works considered it probable that 400 or 500 acres more would be planted within the ensuing 12 months.

Post Office and Telegraphs.

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure of the Postal and Telegraph Department for the year 1894-5, compared with the two preceding years:—

12

	J#		Postal R	Levenue.					
Year. Posta		Commis on Mor Order	nev on 1	Commission on Postal Orders.		Total Postal Revenue.	Telegraph Revenue.	Grand Total	
892-3	£ s. 18,260 5	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	£ d. £ 401	s. d. 13 3	£ s. d. 83 18 4	£ s. d. 19,153 3 9½	£ s. d. 5,813 11 0	£ s. d 24,966 14 9	
893-4	- 19,429 3	1 354 6	6 431	14 4\frac{1}{2} 2	19 1 0	20,434 4 111	6,253 6 0	26,687 10 11	
894-5	- 20,974 2	9 400 10	5 450	$7 6\frac{1}{2}$ 2	28 16 9	$22,053 \ 17 \ 5\frac{1}{2}$	5,908 16 6	27,962 13 11	
				NDITURE.					
Year.	Sala	ries.		nveyance.			Telegraph. Expenditure.	Grand Tota	
	Head Office.	District Offices.	Inland.	Ocean.	Services.	Total Postal Expenditure	Expenditure.	Stand 10ta	
1892-3	£ s. d. 4,626 15 7	£ s. d. 2,304 14 10	£ s. d. 8,424 10 11	£ s. d. 1,666 6 1½	£ s. d. 3,376 6 83	£ s. d. 20,398 14 2½	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	£ s. d 27,033 2 0	

2,028 10 8

4,612 12 63

22,198 3 13

7,075 12 0

29,273 15 13

2,422 6 6

4,715 6 8

1894-5 -

8,419 6 9

Taking the items of revenue seriatim, it is satisfactory to note that the large increase of 1,565l. 0s. 8d., under postages over the previous year, has taken place notwithstanding the reduction in 1893-94 of the registration fee from 4d. to 2d. and the adoption of the minimum scale of charges fixed by the Postal Union Treaty on second class mail matter, i.e., post-cards, printed papers and commercial documents.

JAMAICA. 1894-5.

The temporary loss of revenue which had resulted since 1890 owing to the reduction in that year of the inland letter rate from 2d. to 1d., and of the packet letter rate from 4d. to $2\frac{1}{2}d$. has not only been recovered, but there was an increase in 1894-95 of 1,284l. 16s. 8d over the collections of the year 1889, which preceded that in which the reduction of rates came into force.

The other items of postal revenue show increases over the preceding year.

Postal expenditure in 1894-5 exceeded that of 1893-4 by 1,693l. 18s. $8\frac{3}{4}d$. This increase is chiefly attributable to the establishment of 14 new district post offices, the number of which at the end of the year under review was 123 as against 109 at the end of the previous year; the extension of the mail services by train; and the extension of house delivery of letters in Kingston, and *generally to an increase in postal business, the estimated number of letters and post-cards which passed through the General Post Office and district post offices having been 2,197,256 in 1893-4 and 2,527,132 in 1894-5, an increase for the year of a little over 15 per cent. in business, while the increase in expenditure was only a little over 8 per cent.; much of this increase in business is attributed, as that of the previous year, to the reduced rates of postage.

Telegraphs.

Both ocean and inland mail services were performed during the year in a satisfactory and efficient manner. There was not a single delay in the arrival or departure of the Royal Mail steamers, while the steamers of other lines afforded many opportunities for exchanging mails, chiefly with the United States of America and the mother-country. The several inland mail services were performed without any interruption.

The railway extension to Montego Bay across the island was completed in February, 1895, and daily mail service by train was established between all offices on the line.

Mail Coach Service.

The earnings, 2,616l. 7s. 0d., show a decrease of 101l. 7s. 9d. on the receipts of the previous year, chiefly in respect of passenger fares attributed to the extension of railway facilities above referred to, and of those afforded by the coasting steamers.

Money Orders.

The number issued increased from 13,470 in 1893-4 to 14,294 in 1894-5 for amounts totalling 48,310l. 16s. 10d. in the former, and 50,445l. 10s. 4d. in the latter year.

Postal Orders.

The following figures evidence a continuous increase in postal order business:—

	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894–5.	
No. of orders issued -	115,340	127,465	131,825	
Face value	\$ s. d. 20,393 2 6	£ s. d. 21,567 10 0	£ s. d. 22,286 17 6	

The sales of the year under review show the satisfactory increase of 11,793l. 10s. over those of 1890-1, when the system was inaugurated.

Parcels Post.

The following figures indicate a steady increase in this service:—

Number of Parcels.		1892–3.	189 3– 4.	1894–5.		
From other countries	-	9,860	9,923	10,548		
To other countries	-	2,439	2,651	2,764		
		12,299	12,574	13,312		
Declared value : From other countries		£ s. d. 12,629 8 4	£ s. d. 14,094 8 2	£ s. d. 14,890 17 9		
To other countries	-	$2,355 \ 2 \ 9\frac{3}{4}$	2,189 17 2	2,752 15 9		
Total	-	$14,984 \ 11 \ 1\frac{3}{4}$	16,284 5 4	17,643 13 6		

This steady increase has obtained since the inauguration of the system, and, notwithstanding the large number of parcels handled and distributed by each mail, the postmaster for Jamaica does not recollect a single instance of loss or miscarriage occurring in this island.

Telegraphs.

JAMAICA. 1894-5.

The revenue under this head shows a falling off of 347l. 12s. 6d. and the expenditure an increase of 170l. 17s., compared with the previous year. The falling off in revenue was due to a decrease in the number of messages sent and received during the year, viz: 105,719 as against 111,812 during 1893-4. The former number was, however, greater than that for 1892-3—103,803. The increase in expenditure was due almost entirely to an increase in the salaries of operators and of wages of messengers at the outstations.

Railway.

The gross receipts of the Jamaica Railway Company for the year ended 31st March 1895, amounted to 80,791l. 6s. 0d., and the expenditure to 58,043l. 5s. 2d., leaving a net revenue of 22,748l. 0s. 10d.

The receipts were made up as follows:-

					£	s.	d.
Goods and car	ttle	-	-	-	43,953	19	3
Passengers	-	-	aid - Arta		30,605	4	11
Wharf		Hi- ak			5,718	6	1
Miscellaneous	3	1			513	15	9

The number of train miles run amounted to 281,655, which gave an expenditure per mile of 4s. 1.46d. and receipts equal to 5s. 8.84d. per mile, leaving a net revenue of 1s. 7.38d. per train mile.

The number of passengers carried amounted to 356,713.

Interest was paid out of revenue on First Mortgage Bonds to the extent of 21,273l. 18s. 4d.

The line between Kingston and Montego Bay was completed during the year and the whole line opened for traffic.

Agriculture.

Much intelligent interest in this important subject has been aroused during the last eighteen months, and especially amongst the small settlers who hold so large a proportion of the cultivated land other than grazing land, and there is reasonable ground for hope that a more skilful and profitable cultivation of the soil and curing of crops will be the result. A further decrease of the area under canes has occurred during the year to which the present reports refer. In 1893, 31,555 acres were under cultivation, while in 1894 there were 31,284—a decrease of 271 acres.

The area under coffee has increased by 1,100, and the Director of Public Gardens reports that Liberian coffee is being

extensively planted. Cocoa shows also an increased cultivation of 239 acres, while the acreage under bananas has risen by 1,231. This latter fruit now occupies an area of 18,160 acres. It should be explained that in addition to the land given in as being under cultivation in bananas, large quantities of this fruit are grown in provision grounds and other places not returned as land under bananas. The same remark applies to several of the minor products such as ginger, arrowroot, corn, &c. Without taking this fact into consideration it might be difficult to account for the now large value of the fruit exported from the Colony which was considerably over half a million in 1894-5, and the proportion it bears to the total exports, viz., 27.9 per cent. Orange growers in Jamaica have greatly benefited by the severe blizzard which made such havoc among the orange groves of Florida in the latter part of 1894. The value of this fruit exported from Jamaica in 1894-5 was 30,1091. more than in the preceding year Nor must the fact be overlooked that not a few orange growers of Florida, hopeless of restoring their plantations there, or dreading the recurrence of a disaster similar to that referred to above, are turning their attention to Jamaica and making enquiries with regard to the cost of land, &c., with the view of transferring their interests to the Colony.

The area under ground provisions—the principal article of food of the population—increased by only 461 acres during the year, or less than one half per cent. This is much below the average annual increase, and is attributed to the fact that a large number of the male rural population have been employed in work on rail-way extensions and on the sewerage works in Kingston, and have thus for the time being abandoned the tillage of provision fields.

In matters more strictly pastoral the past year has been one of some anxiety, and, in the case of some districts of the Islands, of serious loss. In July or August 1894, a disease which had hitherto been unknown broke out among cattle and did great mischief before the remedies were discovered which would control it or at least lessen its ravages.

Jamaica has hitherto been almost free from the numerous diseases which affect stock in other countries, and while the disease referred to appears to have been stamped out for the present, the possibility of its re-appearance causes some natural anxiety.

Education.

The following is a summary of the results of the inspection of elementary schools during the year compared with the two previous years:—

Year.		Schools on Government List.	Schools Inspected.	Scholars on Books.	Scholars in Average Attendance.	Per-centage in Average Attendance of Number on Books.	First.	Second.	Third.	F.	Not examined.	Fees.	Grants-in-aid, including Building Grants.
												£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1894-95	1	962	923	104,149	62,587	60.09	160	345	394	37	26	-	47,883 12 11
1893-94		957	918	97,456	64,695	66.38	169	367	380	28	13	45 15 0 Fee Grant	41,378 4 6 6,469 10 0
1892-93		912	867	92,135	52,983	57.50	143	389	379	1	44	6,649 0 0 Fee Grant	34,734 11 0 7,947 9 0
Increase over 1893-4		5	5	6,693	*2,108	*6.59	*9	22	14	9	*13	*45 15 0	37 18 5
Increase over 1892-3	•	50	56	12,014	9,604	2.59	17	*44	5	36	*18	*6,649 0 0	5,203 12 11

^{*} Decrease.

While the number of scholars enrolled has increased by nearly 7,000 it will be observed that the average attendance has diminished by over 2,000 and the percentage of the average attendance has fallen from 66 to 60. The superintending inspector calls attention, however, to the fact that this latter figure is higher than in any year since the inauguration of the present system, only excepting the year immediately preceding the one under review. Mr. Capper says, "to fairly judge of the results of the great " change in the system effected in 1892-3," (when the abolition of fees took place), "the figures for that year must be taken into " consideration as well as those of the following year in which the " attraction of novelty contributed so much to the enormous " increase in school attendance. It will then be seen that there " has been an increase in the two years of 18 per cent. in the " number of children at school: an increase which is quite " sufficient to justify a hopeful view of the situation and a belief " that the course pursued by the legislature has been judicious." Some part of the decrease must, however, be attributed to a failure of crops during the last few months and scarcity of employment in certain parts of the island.

A falling off will be observed in the number of 1st class schools as compared with last year; this is accounted for by the influx of large numbers of children coming under school influences for the first time and to the changes in the curriculum made. by the code.

The annual examination of teachers held at the close of the year 1894 resulted in the passing of two teachers out of six who presented themselves; there are now 297 certified teachers employed in the elementary schools, whilst 42 more have passed their examinations and will receive certificates after the prescribed periods of probation. At the examination of students from the training colleges held at the same time 145 students competed, of whom 127 passed, 13 in honours.

The examination of pupil teachers and volunteers for the examination in connection with the general elementary educational system of the Colony also took place in December 1894.

There were 1,118 candidates of whom 389 passed or 35 per

A feature of interest in connection with the work of the Department is an educational Bulletin which was established during the year, dealing with subjects of general educational interest and serving as a medium of communication on many matters between managers and teachers.

During the year, the education code has been further revised

on the recommendation of the Board of Education.

The report on the training college for girls at Shortwood shows a satisfactory measure of progress during the year. The students numbered 22 on the 1st April, 1892, and they were all presented for examination in December of that year. Of these 4 passed in the 1st class, 8 in the 2nd class, 7 in the 3rd class, and 3 failed.

The third year students passed out in December and found employment at once.

JAMAICA. 1894-5.

Industrial Schools.

The Hope Industrial School.

At the beginning of the year under review there were 32 boys in the institution and at the close of the year 27 boys. The main occupation of these children, especially the older ones, is working in the botanical garden at Hope, where they receive practical lectures daily. The elementary school in which the boys are educated was rated second class at its examination.

Shortwood Industrial School.

This is a school for girls. At the commencement of the year the inmates numbered 28 and at the end of the year 35, one of whom was on license. Of these, 20 were under 12 years of age. The girls are employed in washing, baking, light field labour, and house work.

Alpha Cottage.

These schools for boys and girls, are exclusively for members of the Roman Catholic faith. It is reported of them that they have fully maintained their high local reputation for efficiency and good management.

At the beginning of April 1894 there were 42 boys in the institution and 49 girls, at the end of the year the numbers were 45 and 43 respectively. In these schools great attention is paid to garden and field labour on the boys' side and to laundry and domestic work on the girls.

The boys' school on examination passed first class with 61 marks and the girls' school also passed in this class with 68 marks.

Belmont Orphanage.

This is a small school of 12 children, the number not having varied during the year, and is mainly supervised by the family of the Bishop of Jamaica. The children's school education is provided for at a school in the neighbourhood of Stony Hill which obtained at the last examination a place just short of first class. Their industrial employment includes straw-plaiting and needlework, but they are also trained for domestic situations.

Botanical.

The Department has continued the valuable work of distributing plants and seeds throughout the Colony, sixty-four thousand five hundred and eighteen of the former having been sent out. The

principal descriptions of seeds distributed have been those of teak, kola, Liberian coffee, nutmeg, cocoa, tea, lemon and cinchona.

In the nursery at Hope there is always in stock a supply of several thousand plants. The Director of the Botanic Department reports that there is a collection of 90 varieties of sugar cane. The value of this collection is lessened by the absence of any means for testing the saccharine qualities of the various canes. I have requested the Director to take measures to procure the necessary instruments. All the plants in the economic section of the garden are doing well. The demand for plants is rapidly increasing and has been doing so for three years past.

The monthly bulletin issued by the Department serves to assist the persons who receive plants to grow them successfully. The publication is becoming yearly more popular and its usefulness is

consequently extending.

The condition of all the gardens in charge of the Department has been well maintained during the year, but owing to lack of

funds it has not been feasible to extend operations.

Useful work is being done by the Department in sending out instructors into the country districts to give demonstrations and lessons in planting and curing crops to the small settlers. This practical and simple method of conveying instruction to those who are unable to vist the public gardens is calculated to greatly improve the quality of our minor products.

Immigration.

The coolies who arrived in the "Volga" during the year 1893 have not proved satisfactory, being, the Protector of Immigrants reports, very deficient in stamina and inferior as labourers, while the amount of sickness and mortality amongst them has been proportionately high, compared with those who arrived by the "Erne," "Moy" and "Belgravia."

The Protector considers that an unusually large number of

those shipped were not of the best class for field work.

Six hundred and seventy statute adult immigrants were applied for during the year 1894, but did not arrive till after its close.

No coolies returned to India during the year and only three

passports were issued.

Fifty-six births occurred amongst immigrants and 48 deaths, being per-centages respectively of 2.67 and 1.83 as against 5.97 and 1.94 in 1893.

One death was due to murder by an indentured immigrant of his concubine; the murderer was executed.

There were four other cases of serious crime among East Indians,

two of arson and two of wounding.

On the 1st January 1895, 25 East Indians were in prison, being 1.8 per 1,000 of the East Indian population, 46 in the Lunatic Asylum, or 3.3 per 1,000, and one in the Lepers' Home.

The balance at credit of the Immigration Fund on the 31st March 1894, was 12,770l. 13s. $3\frac{3}{4}d$., and at credit of the Return Passage Fund, 3,486l. 15s. 2d., making together 16,257l. 8s. $5\frac{3}{4}d$. This amount will be considerably reduced in the year 1895 by repatriating coolies.

The number of Savings Bank depositors increased from 619 in 1893 to 793 in 1894, and deposits from 10,705l. 12s. 7d., to 13,958l. 10s. 10d.—57 remittances, aggregating 205l. 9s., were

made to relatives in India.

In addition to correspondence through the Post Office, 184 letters were despatched, and 172 received, by the Immigration Department on behalf of coolies, making together 356 letters.

Wages have been generally in excess of the amounts stipulated for in the agreements, and no serious disputes of any kind have taken place between employers and coolies.

Emigration.

574 labourers left Jamaica for the Isthmus of Panama and 752 returned therefrom.

Government Savings Bank.

The number of depositors and the amount of deposits in the bank have been as follows in the last ten years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits		
		£		
1884-85	15,511	360,190		
1885-86	16,320	363,292		
1886-87	17,047	363,481		
1887-88	18,510	393,250		
1888-89	19,444	408,213		
1890-91	21,747	423,011		
1891-92	22,824	428,348		
1892-93	23,902	417,978		
1893-94	25,533	457,924		
1894-95	27,045	453,875		

The year under review shows an increase of 1,512 in the number of depositors; but a decrease of 4,049l in the amount of deposits as compared with 1893-4. That year, however, having been a remarkably prosperous one in which the deposits were much larger than those of any previous year since the establishment of the bank, the amount of deposits for 1894-5 are nevertheless satisfactory, specially in view of the steady increase in the number of accounts for 50l and under.

In the above amount of deposits are included thirteen deposit accounts for the following public funds:—

		£	S.	d.	
1 Immigration Return Passage Fund	-	1,005	4	11	
1 Constabulary Reward Fund -	-	570	1	4	
1 Constabulary Pension Fund -		2	3	8	
8 Sinking Fund	-	920	11	2	
1 Smith and Beckford's Charity	-	107	5	9	
1 Turks Island	•	514	19	10	

There were also 299 accounts for trusts, charities, Chancery, Administrator-General and bankrupt estates, amounting to a total deposit of 32,744l. 18s. 4d., the remaining 26,733 accounts, representing 416,461l. 6s. 10d. are all ordinary savings bank deposits.

Of the total number of accounts open at the end of the year, 18,712 were for 5l. and under, while only 1,207 were for over 100l.,

the increase in the number of small accounts being 1,319.

3,801 accounts were opened and 2,343 closed, resulting in an increase of 1,458 in the number of accounts open at the end of the year as compared with the number in the year before.

The number of deposits amounted to 31,009 and withdrawals to 32,456, representing 220,983l. 9s. 6d. and 237,645l. 15s. 6d.

respectively.

The expenses of management and interest credited to depositors amounted to 15,569*i*. 14s. 2d., while the revenue realised was 16,660*l*. 14s. 5d., thus showing a net profit of 1,091*l*. 0s. 3d. on the year's transactions. The revenue compared with the preceding year shows an increase of 884*l*.

Trade.

Notwithstanding complaints of commercial depression the statistics of the Revenue Department do not show that there has been any diminution in the volume of trade.

The difference between the value of the imports of 1894-5 and those of 1893-4 as compared with that between the value in 1893-4 and 1892-3 has certainly been considerably less, but, as the following table will show, the figures for the year under review are higher than those of any previous year—

Value of Imports.

	17:	V			
					£
1884-5				-	1,487,833
1885-6	-			-	1,325,603
1886-7			-	-	1,322,336
1887-8			•		1,695,605
1888-9	-	- A			1,597,600
1890-1			• 14		2,188,937
1891-2			•	-10	1,759,890
1892-3		A .		-	1,941,481
1893-4		-			2,157,794
1894-5			•	-	2,191,745

Of the sum shown for 1894-5, 2,190,712l. was the value of goods imported for home consumption, the corresponding figures in 1893-4 being 2,136,113l. or 54,599l. less than during the present year.

JAMAICA. 1894-5.

The imports are classified under the following heads:-

I. Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics.

II. Raw materials.

III. Manufactured articles.

IV. Coin and bullion.

The value of the imports under Head I. in the past year was 845,079l. as against 825,952l. in 1893-4 or about 2·3 per cent. more; under Head II. 67,432l. as against 49,680l. in 1893-94 or 35.7 per cent more; and under Head III. 1,249,676l. as against 1,219,405l. or 2·4 per cent. more, while under Head IV. there has been a decrease from 41,076l. to 28,525l.—equal to 30·8 per cent. Under the first head the principal items in which increase is most marked are:—

	- 6				Quantity.	Value.
Cattle neat -					summer of the	£
					2,045	4,956
Horses		•	-		488	3,518
Mules		•	-	-	85	989
Bread and Biscuit	s	-	-	-	602,426 lbs.	4,970
Butter -	-	-		-	19,323 lbs.	966
Butter substitutes	•	-	-	-	6,277 lbs.	157
Corn		•	-	-	36,424 bushels	5,882
Cornneal -	-	-	-	-	3,107 barrels	1,682
Pease and beans		-		-	2,910 bushels	1,091
Beef in tins -	-	-		-	_	1,833
Hams	-	-	-	-	14,097 lbs.	528
Cotton seed oil	-			-	21,548 gallons	2,060
Rice	-	-	-	-	974,603 lbs.	2,591
Sugar (refined)	-	-		-	421,946 lbs.	2,124

In the case of flour, alewives, dried or salted fish, herrings, and one or two other articles the quantities imported have been greater, while the values, owing to low prices at the country of origin, have decreased.

One reason assigned for the increase in the importation of articles of food is the fact that there are large numbers of American labourers at present in the Colony brought out for the purpose of carrying on the construction of the railway extensions, and to the further fact that native labourers who are working on the line have meanwhile abandoned their provision fields and live by the wages they earn and expend largely on the purchase of imported articles of food.

Of articles included in the second class the increase has been chiefly in—

						£
Coal -	-		-	-	-	13,065
Natural m	anures	-			-	1,941
Tallow and	l natural	greases	- 0			595
Trees and	plants	-	-		F-1	483

While under Class III. increased importations have chiefly been made of the following—

					a.
Steam engines, o	other	than lo	comotives	or	
agricultural	-			-	12,513
Galvanised iron for	r roofin	g -	-	-	3,409
Iron or steel rails	-			-	5,021
Iron or steel tubes	and p	ipes -			10,969
Cement -	-	The second		-	3,224
Boots and shoes	-	-		-	4,296
White pine lumber				-	3,216

On the other hand there has been a marked falling off in most descriptions of clothing fabrics, the importations of cotton piece goods alone being 57,512l. less than last year, and of haberdashery 9,748l. less. The Collector-General attributes the falling-off in fabrics to the existence of large stocks in hand at the commencement of the year.

The imports of the Colony have been drawn during the past three years from the various countries in the following proportions:—

_		1892–3.	1893-4.	1894-5.
United Kingdom	-	51.9	55.1	40.4
Dominion of Canada	7	9.6	8.8	8.2
United States -	-	34.8	33.3	36.8
Other countries -	-	3.7	2.9	4.3

The increase of the proportion of imports from the United States is due to the large increase in food stuffs imported of which an explanation has been given above, and the increase in the proportion drawn from other foreign countries is accounted for by the importation of cattle from the States of Colombia, and to the fact that direct trade with Germany has been established by a line of steamers from Hamburg having included Jamaica in its itinerary.

The value of the exports has been considerably less during the past year than in 1893-94, but with that exception is higher than

in any previous year. The falling-off has amounted to 154,268l. as will appear from the following table:

JAMAICA. 1894-5.

			Of Produce and Manufactures of the Colony.	Of British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures.	Total.
			£	£	£
1884-85	-	-	1,181,203	227,645	1,408,848
1885-86	-	-	1,078,315	201,803	1,280,118
1886-87	-	-	1.334,465	174,542	1,509,010
1887-88	-	-	1,661,601	166,989	1,828,590
1888-89	-	-	1,501,660	113,164	1,614,824
1890-91		-	1,807,084	95,730	1,902,814
1891-92	-	-	1,628,777	93,319	1,722,096
1892-93	-	-	1,690,637	69,170	1,759,807
1893-94	-	-	1,982,596	93,093	2,075,689
1894-95	-	-	1,848,877	72,544	1,921,421

The decrease has occurred principally under the head of raw material, which is 140,419l. less than in the previous year, and is accounted for by the diminished export of woods—of bitterwood there were 1,227 tons less and 3,774l. in value exported, of fustic 7,500 tons and 27,167l. in value, and of logwood 13,397 tons and 105,152l. in value. In the case of the two first of these the falling-off is attributed to bad prices and lack of demand, while in the case of logwood, lower prices have ruled and growers who have been accustomed to remarkably high prices lately seem unwilling to accept lower rates.

An interesting feature of the exports of the Colony during the year under review is the appearance for the first time of dye extracts. The value of this export during the year was 3,126l., and represents the first output of chemical works which have recently been established for the purpose of extracting dyes from

logwood and other dyewoods.

The following articles have also been exported in decreased quantities, viz.:—

	Quantity.					Value.
Cocoa					979 cwt.	£
Bananas					394,047 bunches.	6,535 44,371
Sugar	-			0	11,854 cwt.	43,034

while the export of the following has improved—

	-				Quantity.	Value.
						£
Cocoanuts	-	-			972,153	2,378
Coffee	No.	-		-	6,836 cwt.	14,598
Oranges			-	-	17,574,604	30,109
Rum	-			-	495,071 gallons.	41,355
Cigars	-		-	-	3,722 lbs.	1,951

The large increase in oranges is the result of the damage to many of the orange groves in Florida and the consequent increased demand for Jamaica fruit.

The following table shows the proportions in which the Island's exports have been taken by the several countries named, during this year, as compared with the two preceding years:—

		1892–3.	1893-4.	1894–5.
United Kingdom	-	29.1	26.7	27.1
United States -	-	54.2	57.3	58.1
Canada	-	2.6	1.7	1.5
Other countries -	-	14.1	14.3	13.3

The following table shows, for 5 years, the percentage proportion which each of the several articles of produce mentioned bears to the total export value:—

			1890-1.	1891–2.	1892–3.	1893–4.	1894-5
Sugar -			13.1	15.6	14.3	14.2	12.9
Rum -		-	11.	15.7	11.3	7.4	10.1
Coffee -	-		15.7	20.7	20.1	17.3	19.3
Dyewoods			21.3	18.7	21.1	24.3	19.
Fruit -	-	-	29.4	17.7	23.1	26.6	27.9
Pimento	-	-	4.5	3.1	3.5	3.8	4.5
Other produce		-	5.	8.5	6.6	6.4	6.3

Police.

The allowed strength of the Constabulary Force at 31st March 1895, was 776, while the actual strength was 772.

The number is made up of 19 officers, 122 sub-officers, and 631 men.

In addition to the regular constabulary there were at the date mentioned 212 rural headmen of police and 742 rural policemen, the total effective strength of regular and rural police being thus 1,726 of all ranks. This is an increase of 50 on the preceding year and of 68 on the year 1892–93.

The enlistments numbered 84, while 55 men were discharged, 21 dismissed, one deserted, and one died.

Of the 55 men discharged 12 were granted pensions, and 14 received gratuities.

Musketry practice has been more general in the force during the past year, 475 trained constables and 55 recruits having fired the course, as against 321 trained men and 89 recruits in the year before. The following table, given in continuance of similar returns in previous years, shows a portion of the services of the police:—

JAMAICA. 1894-5.

	1889-1.	1891–2.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5
Number of persons arrested on view and on information.	9,624	6,558	6,923	8,237	7,781
Number of persons apprehended on warrants.	2,499	1,645	1,802		
Number of search war- rants executed.	153	116	102	122	150
Number of persons sum- moned.	25,427	17,588	18,896	19,212	19,249
Number of persons sub- penaed.	27,540	28,267	28,766	29,808	30,673
Number of seizures under revenue laws.	665	325	440	399	437
Number of post-mortems ordered.	627	460	432	594	603
Number of prisoners escorted.	15,312	9,638	10,570	8,599	8,224

There were ten arrests for murder (including infanticide) during the year as against 13 the year before. Of these, however, three only resulted in convictions for that offence, two were discharged by the magistrates, the prosecution of two was abandoned in the upper court, and three remained undisposed of.

Of other offences against the person it is satisfactory to note that of manslaughter there were three cases only as against ten last year; of concealing birth, 5 as against 11, and of bestiality, 14 as against 27.

On the other hand the arrests effected for assaults occasioning bodily harm have risen from 21 last year to 80 during 1894-95, cutting and wounding from 684 to 694. Assaults with intent to commit rape from 27 to 36 and rape from 35 to 39.

The number of offences against the police and against their authority go far to measure the regard for law and order which

the community possess.

In 1892-3 there were 288 cases of assaults on the police, 353 in 1893-94 and 349 in 1894-95. In 1892-93 there were 109 cases of obstructing the police in their duty, 132 in 1893-94 and 75 in 1894-5.

The increase last year over the year before in this class of offence has thus been checked.

Turning to offences against property, the police effected 26 arrests for the serious crime of burglary, of which number 17 resulted in conviction while eleven persons where either discharged for want of sufficient evidence or acquitted on trial. It is to be regretted that this offence has increased during the past year. In 1893-94 there were only 14 arrests and 8 convictions.

There has also been an increase of cases of breaking into dwelling-houses and shops and stealing therein, of larceny of small

stock and of simple larceny.

The Inspector-General's report shows no marked change in the figures of malicious injury to property and of minor offences.

At the end of 1893-4 there were 1,060 habitual criminals under police surveillance. Of these, 252 were re-convicted during 1894-5, while the number under police surveillance at 31st March last

had risen to 1,307.

During the year the police have regularly performed their ordinary and border patrols. They have afforded the usual aid—apart altogether from prosecutions—in the preservation of order, and the protection of the revenue, and have efficiently discharged numerous minor services which, though they cannot be shown in figures, form no inconsiderable proportion of their important duties.

Prisons and Reformatories.

At the end of the financial year under report there were 957 prisoners in custody in all the prisons of the Island as compared with

943	on	31st	March	1894
964		12	99	1893
988		3)	5:9	1892
893		11	99	1891

The following return gives some of the main statistics of the Department for the year under review in comparison with those of the previous year:—

	Year ended	l 31st March
	1895.	1894.
Commitments:— To prison	3,654 575	3, 935 44 5
Total	4,229	4,380
Re-convictions	1,210	1,397
Deaths:— General Penitentiary— Other prisons———————————————————————————————————	10 15	21 29
Total	25	50
Executions	916	1,008
Gross expenditure Gross earnings in cash	£ s. d. 18,531 15 1 5,688 8 7	£ s. d. 19,344 1 7 5,264 18 2½
Net cost of maintaining prisons Cost per prisoner Estimated value of labour yielding no return. Estimated value of bricklaying work and	12,843 6 5 14 0 5 4,667 13 2 4,238 15 0	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
stone quarried (General Penitentiary). Washing and repairing (General Penitentiary).	1,742 14 5	1,808 17 4

Discipline has been well maintained in the prisons, and the mark system continues to work satisfactorily at the General Penitentiary. The several prison buildings are in good order, and the extensions at the St. Catherine district prison have satisfactorily progressed. When completed the closing of the remaining district and short term prisons in the island will follow. This very desirable concentration, facilitated by recent railway extension, cannot but be productive of improved prison discipline and may be favourable, it is hoped, to economy in this branch of the public service.

The health of the prisoners generally during the year was satisfactory. The deaths per 1,000 in the General Penitentiary were 19.0, and in the other prisons 38.2 as against 37.8 and 61.8 respectively

for last year.

School has been held regularly in the General Penitentiary and in the St. Catherine and Falmouth District prisons, while religious services have also been held there and in the Hanover District prison and the Middlesex and Surrey County Gaols. In the two short term prisons at Port Antonio and Black River no regular provision exists for such services, but prayers are read by the officers of the institution.

As will be seen from the foregoing statistical return the labour of the penitentiary is largely employed in brick-making and quarrying; trades are also exercised and taught to a considerable extent. In the other prisons, quarrying and breaking stones, mat making, mattress making, picking coir, &c. is carried on according to local circumstances. Penal labour in the form of work on the treadmills is in force in the General Penitentiary and in the form of shot-drill in the district prison.

Reformatories.

On the 31st March 1895, there were 200 boys in the Stony Hill Institution; of these, 115 were Reformatory boys and 85 were boys in the Industrial School. During the year there was an increase of five in the number of Industrial School boys and a decrease of a like number in the Reformatory boys. There were nine boys out on license in private employment at the end of the year.

At Stony Hill, agriculture and trades of various sorts continue to be taught, such as carpentry, tailoring, blacksmith's, mason's and bricklaying work, and boys on discharge are given a set of tools to

enable them to earn a living.

The sanitary condition of this institution continues satisfactory. On the 1st April 1894, there were 26 Reformatory children and six Industrial School children in the Girls' Reformatory, total 32. On the 31st March 1895, there were 25 children, of whom three were Industrial School children. The majority of these children were of the ages of between 12 and 16 years.

In the Girls' Reformatory employment is found for the inmates in making, mending, washing and ironing their own clothes, and in JAMAICA. 1894-5. Jamaica. 1894-5. making up clothing for the boys at Stony Hill Reformatory and for the Immigration Department, cooking, cleaning dormitories, preparing cassava starch, and washing for private customers.

Vital Statistics.

The total estimated population of the Colony on 31st March 1895 was 683,739, and the mean population, taking the natural increase to the middle of the year, is estimated at 678,786. On these latter figures the island marriage, birth, and death-rates are based. The net gain of population during the year is placed at 10,977, or 17·1 per 1,000 living persons, against a rate in last year of 19·5.

The number of marriages recorded during the year was 3,629, or a rate of 5-3 per 1,000 of the population. Last year showed

3,734 marriages with a rate of 5.5.

Of the 7,258 persons married, 50.33 per cent. were unable to sign their names in the proportions of 43.56 per cent. males to 57.09 per cent. females. These figures show an improvement over past years, especially in the case of the women, where the rate of illiteracy has fallen from 68.8 per cent. in 1883-4 to 57.0 per cent. in 1894-5.

The births registered in the island during the year numbered 25,298, or at the rate of 37.2 per 1,000 of the mean population. Compared with last year a decrease of 2,067 births is shown. Of the births 60.8 per 100 were illegitimate, or a little more than the

average of the past ten years.

The deaths recorded in the year numbered 14,321, the rate per

1,000 cf mean population being 21.0.

43.4 per cent. of the deaths were those of children under five years of age. There seems no ground for an assumption that this heavy mortality among children is to be attributed to the prevalence of illegitimate births; and the Registrar-General is arranging to give reliable statistics on this point in his next annual report.

DEPENDENCIES OF JAMAICA.

Grand Cayman.

There were 33 marriages during the year, an annual rate of 8.8

to each 1,000 of the inhabitants.

The total births in the year were 169, or an annual rate of 45:3 to each 1,000 of the population. Of these, 7:1 in each 100 were illegitimate.

Total deaths 16, or an annual rate of 4.2 to each 1,000 of the

population.

Cayman Bras and Little Cayman.

Marriages during the year, 8. Total births, 40; 2 births illegitimate. Total deaths, 11.

General.

From May to November 1894, I was absent from the Colony on leave of absence and the Government was administered by the Senior Military Officer Commonling the Tream.

Senior Military Officer Commanding the Troops.

During the year severe drought was experienced in several districts, and a disease hitherto unknown broke out amongst the cattle which for a time baffled the efforts of local veterinary skill. A commission was appointed which visited the various districts affected and accumulated all the available information. On my return in November I forwarded a copy of the report of the Commission, with the evidence, to the Governor-General of Canada with a request that His Excellency would obtain for me a report and advice from the best veterinary authorities. The report has since been received and promulgated, and I have reason to believe that the disease, which appears to have arisen to a great extent from drinking polluted water from almost exhausted ponds, has now nearly disappeared.

Early in January 1895, the extension of the railway to Montego Bay was completed, since which time the passenger traffic between Kingston, Montego Bay, and other towns along the line has been considerable. The fertile country opened up by the railway is capable of great development, which will be retarded or accelerated in proportion to the inducements offered

by the railway company by the cheap carriage of produce.

A satisfactory evidence of general progress is afforded by the investment of local and foreign capital—a factory for the extraction of logwood and other dyes has been established at Spanish Town, giving employment to a large number of people. Ice factories are increasing in number, and electric light and power works are established in Kingston and other towns in the Island. Nor have the parochial authorities of the island been backward in effecting improvements. With the exception of Mandeville and Brown's Town, where, from their elevation, peculiar difficulties exist, every town in the island has now a constant house-to-house supply of pure water, and wherever markets are held excellent market buildings have been erected.

Since the failure of the orange crop in Florida there have been many inquiries for suitable land from persons who have seen the results of years of labour destroyed by frost in two or three days. I have reason to hope that there will be in the near future a considerable influx of orange growers from Florida who will undertake the regular cultivation of oranges as it has never been carried out heretofore in Jamaica. I am sure that those who, with proper training, embark in the business will receive an amply remunerative return for their capital and labour, and I see no reason why, with a soil and climate so peculiarly well suited for the cultivation, the export of oranges should not rival in value that of bananas or of sugar.

HENRY A. BLAKE,

King's House, October 10, 1895.

Governor.

JAMAICA. 1894-5.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 157.

LABUAN.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, see Colonial Report [Annual] No. 122.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



LONDON:

PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Cole	ony.				Year.
123	Basutoland -	- 59	in a			1893-94
124	St. Lucia		- 20		-	1893
125	St. Helena -	-			-	"
126	Ceylon	-	-		-	"
127	Fiji			S. Carriery	-	"
128	Grenada	-		-		,,
129	Sierra Leone -	-			-	and the second s
130	British Bechuanaland	-	-		-	1893-94
131	British New Guinea					1892-38
						1893-94
132	Lagos	-			-	1893
133	British Guiana -	-	-	-		1893-94
134	Jamaica	-				••
135	Newfoundland -	- 1 *3	- 36		1	1893
136	Gold Coast -	-			-	
7	Zululand	-			-	1894
138	Bermuda	-	-	-		29
139	Bahamas		-		-	"
140	Barbados	-	-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-	"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands			-		"
142	Malta	-	1			"
143	Gambia	-		-		"
144	Windward Islands -	-				"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	-	4		10/5-1	,,
146	Gibraltar	-				"
147	Falkland Islands -	-				77
148	Hong Kong -	-	40		-	"
149	Straits Settlements	-				"
150	Lagos		-			,,
151	Seychelles	-		-	1	"
152	Basutoland -		-			"
153	Fiji	-			1	"
154	St. Helena -					
155	Ceylon	- 4		-		"
156	Mauritius -	_				», »,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colon	у.		Subject.
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand ·	-		Forests.
3	Sierra Leone		-	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -	-	-	Emigration.

No. 157.

LABUAN.

LABUAN 1894.

(For Report for 1893, see No. 122.)

Governor BEAUFORT to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor's Office, Sandakan, North Borneo, September 11, 1895. I HAVE the honour to forward by this mail the Labuan

Blue Book for the year 1894.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The revenue of the Colony is chiefly derived from land rents, including—

			\$
Squatter's licences -		-	2,253
Rent of the usher market		-	2,760
Excise licences, opium -	-	-	12,240
Excise licences, tobacco -	-	-	3,900
Excise licences, spirits -		-	2,820
Post Office, profit on sale of s		-	4,489
Harbour dues, royalty on coa	al exported	-	1,753

2. The total revenue for the year was \$36,962. This was less than that of the previous year by \$2,772. The chief falling off was in licences \$4,124, land revenue, fines and fees, and The most considerable increase was in postal miscellaneous. revenue \$2,836, while rents, exclusive of land, customs, interest and commission and reimbursements, all showed an improvement

on the year 1893.

SIR,

3. The total expenditure for the year amounted to \$45,464, an increase on that of 1893 of \$9,335, the largest increases were in upkeep of Government vessels \$2,587, and works and buildings \$2,843. This excess was caused by the necessity of providing accommodation for the Telegraph Company. The public works and buildings done were with that exception limited to repairs and upkeep, but the increased cost is partly due to the satisfactory fact that there was so little convict labour available.

Wt. 20348. o 89319.

LABUAN. 1894.

4. It will be observed that the expenditure was in excess of the revenue by \$8,502, which amount was therefore contributed by the British North Borneo Company towards the administration of the Colony. This includes an annual payment of over \$6,000 pensions accrued at the date of the transfer to the Company, which the Company undertook to pay. The Colony, however, is charged with about an equal amount as contribution to the expenditure on the different departments of the Company's Government which direct and control the branches of these departments in Labuan. Exclusive of land rents, the only direct taxation produced the small sum of \$659, the balance of the revenue being made up of licences for the importation, manufacture and sale of opium, for the sale of spirits and tobacco and pawnbroking; of these the spirit and tobacco licences are practically monopolies, sold by tender and giving the licensee the sole right to sell liquor and tobacco. These have been in force for some years, and it is a question whether the right to sell should not be thrown open to the public, and the collection of duty alone be farmed out.

Councils and Assemblies.

5. There is no Legislative Council or other Assembly. A Chinese Advisory Board was created in 1891, but does not seem to have been warmly taken up by the Chinese, and has since fallen into disuse. The Board known as the Victoria Lighting and Sanitary Committee, established under Ordinances IV. of 1882 and II. of 1883, appears also to have become defunct, the rates levied under those Ordinances being now collected by the Government, which provides for the sanitary and lighting work out of the general revenue.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

6. No important changes took place except that the larger European population brought by the coal and telegraph companies necessitated the appointment of Dr. Adamson M.B., C.M., of Edinburgh, as medical officer in place of an apothecary.

CHURCHES.

7. There is no church in Labuan, the former one was burnt down in 1889, and has not been rebuilt, for want of funds.

EDUCATION.

8. The only education establishment in the island is a small school in Victoria, built by the Society of the Propagation of the Gospel Mission, now in charge of a Chinese schoolmaster. There is an average daily attendance of from 10 to 11 boys, no girls. The Government contributes \$200 per annum to its support.

TRADE.

9. There was a satisfactory rise in value of both imports and exports, as compared with 1893, as follows:—

Labuan. 1894.

L'adliker,		1894.	1893.	Increase.
		\$	\$	\$
Imports	-	852,880	518,414	334,465
Exports	-	482,820	247,399	235,421

The principal improvement in the imports from the mainland of Borneo was sago, of which there was an increase of \$88,861 in value.

The main increases in exports were as follows:-

Ar	ticle.		1894.	Increase over 1893
Sago-flour	at fysik	-	\$ 218,081	\$ 76,058
Damar -		-	39,540	39,231
Guttah -		-	30,449	15,054
Coal (Labu	an) -		67,304	44,688

10.

			Ship			Trade.		
,	Tear.	Ent	ered.	Cle	ared.			
		No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Imports.	Exports.	
1891 -	н	185	61,665	185	62,469	\$ 363,022	\$ 265,107	
1894 -		121	56,879	120	56,618	852,880	482,820	

These figures show that the carrying trade has somewhat concentrated in the hands of a smaller number of vessels, which have, however, been able to carry a very much larger amount of merchandize, and points to an improvement, therefore, in the business of the ships calling at Labuan.

Communication with Singapore is kept up by four steamers running regularly, three of which go on to British North Borneo ports and sometimes to Brunei, while the fourth is employed exclusively in carrying coal from the Coal Point mines. In addition to these there are several smaller steamers belonging to

Labuan. 1894. Labuan or British North Borneo, which pay frequent visits, and do a considerable trade.

11. There is a notable increase in the amount of coal exported from the Coal Point mines, now being worked by the New Central Borneo Company; attributable undoubtedly to the completion of the line of railway connecting the mines with Victoria Harbour.

Year.		Tons exported.	Value.
1892 -	-	12,004	\$ 58,681
1893 -	-	4,112	22,616
1894 -		14,957	67,304

Most of the coal is taken to Singapore in the Company's ship "Libelle" but during the year under review a trade was opened with Manila which showed a perceptible increase when the war broke out between China and Japan.

AGRICULTURE.

12. Of the estimated acreage of the Colony only about 2,338 acres are under cultivation, leaving a balance of about 16,012 acres not yet cultivated. Padi, coconuts, and fruit are the only products at all extensively planted.

GAOLS AND CRIME.

13 Thirty-eight persons in all were committed to the gaol, 19 for short terms, 14 for less than one year, and five for a longer period.

One hundred and ninety-three offences were reported to the police in respect of which 80 persons were acquitted or discharged, 93 were summarily convicted, and 11 sent for trial. Of the last named, 10 were convicted, and one discharged.

HOSPITAL.

14. One hundred and forty-seven were under treatment in the hospital, of whom 111 were discharged cured, 15 relieved, and 10 died during the year.

TELEGRAPH.

15. Cables were laid from Singapore and Hong Kong to Labuan, and telegraphic communication was established in April

with those places, by the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company The British North Borneo Company provides suitable offices and quarters for the Telegraph Company's employés in Labuan at a cost of \$20,000. A cable was laid at the same time from Victoria to Menumbok, a rising settlement on the mainland of Borneo. The British North Borneo Company are constructing a telegraph across country to connect this with Sandakan on the East Coast.

LABUAN. 1894. 427

POSTAL.

16. During the year, about 20,324 letters and postcards, and about 15,697 newspapers, book packets, &c. and parcels passed through the Post Office, while money-order transactions took place to the value of \$1,916. The old postal labels were discontinued and a new series introduced by the British North Borneo Company, being similar in pattern, though different in colour, to those used in the State of North Borneo surcharged with the name of the Colony.

GENERAL.

17. The German ship "Carl Friedrich" was discovered derelict and towed into Labuan by the American barque "Georgietta" in December 1893. She was appraised and sold and was subsequently towed to Singapore in April.

Sir Charles Brooke, Rajah of Sarawak, visited the Colony, and

H.M S. "Pigmy" made a short stay.

The only legislative measures were two Ordinances to provide

for the suppression of the traffic in fictitious postage stamps.

18. My predecessor, Mr. C. V. Creagh, C.M.G., left the Colony on June 12th. I am sorry that pressure of business or bad health, or both, prevented him from making this report, as I am unfortunately only able to give this somewhat bald statement on the returns which have been made up by the Resident, which Mr. Creagh could doubtless have elucidated and put into more interesting form.

I have, &c.

LEICESTER P. BEAUFORT,

Governor of Labuan and North Borneo.

COLONIAL REPORTS.-ANNUAL.

No. 150.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

[For Report for 1893 see Colonial Report (Annual) No. 132.]

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Cole	ony.				Year.
118	Falkland Islands -		4			1893
119	Rodrigues -	•				,,
120	Mauritius	- 4				"
121	Straits Settlements -					,,
122	Labuan					"
123	Basutoland -					1893-94
124	St. Lucia	-		•		1893
125	St. Helena -	4-1				"
126	Ceylon					99
127	Fiji	-				,,
128	Grenada		•			,,
129	Sierra Leone -	-		-	-	"
130	British Bechuanaland	•	-		-	1893-94
131	British New Guinea	-		BI-ST		1892-3&
						1893-94
132	Lagos	•	•	•		1893
133	British Guiana -	-	-	•	•	1893-94
134	Jamaica	•	•			"
135	Newfoundland -	•	•	•	44 · 1	1893
136	Gold Coast -		•	•	•	"
137	Zululand	•	•			1894
138	Bermuda		•		•	"
139	Bahamas	•	•	•	-	27
140	Barbados -	•	•	•		, ,,
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	•	•	•	-	"
142	Malta -	•			-	"
143	Gambia -	-		•	-	"
144	Windward Islands -	•	•	•	-	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	•			•	99
146	Gibraltar	•		•	-	"
147	Falkland Islands -	•		• 4	-	"
148	Hong Kong			•	1	"
149	Straits Settlements -	•	•		201-	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colon	y.		Subject.
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand			Forests.
3	Sierra Leone		-	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -		-	Emigration.

No. 150.

LAGOS.

LAGOS. 1894.

[For Report for 1893 see Colonial Report (Annual) No. 132.]

Acting-Governor DENTON to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Lagos,

August 27, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to forward six copies of the Blue Book for the year 1894, together with a report on its contents by the Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. Haddon-Smith.

I have, &c.

GEORGE C. DENTON.

Colonial Secretariat, Lagos,
West Coast of Africa,
August 23, 1895.
transmit the Blue Book of the

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1894.

REVENUE.

The revenue of the year 1894 was raised from the same sources as in 1893 without any alteration in the tariff. It amounted to 137,017l. 1s. 4d. as compared with 115,317l. 9s. 6d. in 1893, showing an increase of 21,699l. 11s. 10d. Customs receipts showed an increase in 1894 of 15,590l. 14s. 2d., as compared with the previous year, and licenses showed an increase of 5,206l. 4s. 5d.

EXPENDITURE.

The estimated expenditure for 1894 amounted to 106,825l. 1s. 4d., an the sum actually disbursed to 124,829l. 6s. 4d., showing an excess of 18,004l. 5s. 0d. This excess was mainly due to expenditure in public works, also to the large increase of the constabulary force, which was found essential, owing to the active interior policy pursued which has necessitated the establishment of military posts in the Hinterland; notwithstanding the increased expenditure, there still remained a surplus of 12,187l. 15s.

The statement of assets and liabilities on the 31st December 1894 shows a balance in favour of the Colony of 48,857l. 17s. 7d. as compared with a balance of 36,670l. 2s. 6d. at the close of

o 88910. Wt. 20348.

SIR,

Lagos. 1894. 1893, and a difference in favour of the Colony of 26,253l. 17s. 7d. since the year 1892.

DEFENCES.

There are no Imperial troops stationed in the Colony, but there is an armed force composed of both infantry and artillery and recruited from the Houssa tribe; this force is officered from the regular army and militia, and is armed with Sniders, Maxims, Nordenfelts, and 7-pounders. The total strength of the force on 31st December 1894 was 743. The civil police, which at the end of 1894 was 223 strong, being only one short of its full complement, is also drilled and armed with the Snider; the total cost of both forces in 1894 was 24,761l. 15s. 2d., being an increase of 3,824l. 12s. 11d. on the previous year.

Her Majesty's ships of the Cape and West African squadron occasionally visit Lagos, but owing to the shallowness of the bar H.M.S. "Alecto" is the only ship able to enter the harbour.

The Colony has an armed stern-wheeler which is useful for river work; her draft is 3 feet.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The estimated expenditure under the head of Public Works annually recurrent amounted to 8,035l., and that actually expended

to 4,124l. 12s., showing a saving of 3,910l. 8s.

The total vote for "Public Works Extraordinary" amounted to 27,140l. 12s. 10d. and the sum actually expended to 35,925l. 0s. 1d., showing an excess of 8,784l. 7s. 3d.; this is attributable to extra officers' quarters and an excess on Government House, which was occupied before the 31st December 1894.

An amount of 4,907l. 5s. 9d. was spent on roads to the interior, and opening up and clearing waterways. There are now two good roads from the Ejinrin and Epe markets on the lagoon to Jebu Ode, the total distance of both roads being 41 miles (19 and 22); it is possible to use carriages on both roads, and considering that two years ago they were simply ruts and most difficult for pedestrians it shows the advance that has been made in this direction since the Jebu War of 1892.

The Yewa River in the Western District, on the banks of which coffee plantations have been established, has been so cleaned that it is possible for launches to go where two years ago canoes were unable to be used owing to the thick growth of weed on the water.

IMPORTS.

The general imports into the Colony for the year show a slight decrease in value as compared with the returns for 1893, but this is not surprising, considering 1893 was an exceptional year owing to the stoppage of trade in 1892 through hostilities with the neighbouring tribes which necessitated merchants cancelling

the usual supply of goods from Europe. In 1894 the total value of imports amounted to 744,561*l*. as compared with 749,027*l*. in 1893, showing a decrease of 4,466*l*., but the customs duties show an increase, in 1894, of 15,590*l*. as compared with 1893.

LAGOS. 1894.

EXPORTS.

The general exports also show a slight decrease. In 1893 the total value was 836,295l., while in 1894 it had fallen to 821,682l., thus showing a falling off of 14,613l. This decrease can be attributed to the same cause as is urged in the preceding paragraph with regard to exports. The reason for it is to be found in the fact that in 1892 the traders were unable to bring their produce to the markets owing to the insecurity of the roads; no sooner was peace established than the roads were open for traffic, and the accumulation of produce was brought to the Colony; for this cause the returns for 1893 may be taken as above the average, while the figures of 1894 may well be reckoned as a fair criterion of the year's export without any unusual stimulus.

SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels entered and cleared during the year 1893 was 862, with a tonnage of 694,840; out of this number 486 were British, with a tonnage of 526,032. The total number of vessels entered and cleared during the year 1894 was 889, with a tonnage of 757,701; this included ten sailing ships and 879 steamers. Out of this number 505 were British, with a tonnage of 560,983.

AGRICULTURE.

Among the agricultural industries which appear to be of steadily growing promise may be mentioned the cultivation of coffee, cocoa, and kola. The collection of rubber is largely on the increase and this industry gives promise of assuming very large dimensions.

PRISON.

The admissions into the prison in 1894 were 272 or 30 less than in 1893, the discharges numbered 290 as compared with 291 in 1893; there were no executions in either year; considering that the Colony has been considerably increased these figures are satisfactory. Doubtless the system of solitary confinement has a deterrent effect upon the criminal class of the population who in previous years thought it no hardship to undergo terms of imprisonment.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The criminal statistics for the year show exactly the same number of convictions, viz: 513 as in 1893, and considering the

LAGOS. 1894. additional territory which has been taken into the Colony this is most gratifying, and proves that crime is on the decrease. The chief offence was larceny, under which heading there were 113 convictions as compared with 133 in 1893; cases of fighting and disturbance in the street amounted to 100. There were only 2 cases of slavedealing as compared with six in the previous year, and only three cases of drunkenness. Considering that in the Island of Lagos alone the population is over 33,000, this clearly proves that drunkenness in this part of Africa is uncommon, and that there is insufficient evidence for the contention which is advanced that the native is being ruined by what is so often spoken of as the heinous gin traffic; it is a well-known fact by those in a position best able to judge, by long residence, that the inhabitants of this country have a natural repugnance to intemperance.

POPULATION.

The population of the Island of Lagos at the last census in 1891 was 33,000. It is impossible to state accurately the population of the Colony, as, owing to the addition of territory since that year, the numbers have considerably increased; moreover, as the Births, Deaths, and Marriage Ordinance has not been put into operation in the districts, no estimate can be formed except in the year the census was taken. The figures hereafter given refer only to Lagos Island.

The number of births registered during the year is 1,197, against 1,034 in 1893; of the 1,197 registered there appear 310 of Christian, 762 of Mahommedan, and 125 of Pagan parentage; of the above number 207 are registered as illegitimate, an increase of 27; considering the law recognises marriage by native custom

this figure is high.

There were 43 marriages registered as having taken place in

Christian places of worship, being two less than in 1893.

The total number of deaths amounted to 1,487, against 1,387 in 1893; this gives a rate of 44 per 1,000 as against an average death rate in England of 19:14 per 1,000. Fever claims the greater number of victims, viz., 471; dysentery, 96 as against 47 in the year 1893; and lung diseases, 261; this last ailment is attributable to the heavy rains in this part of the country and the very low-lying land. The inhabitants chiefly sleep on the ground, and very few of the houses have raised floors; considering the rainfall in the year was 70:1 inches, the month of June alone scoring 31:03, the moisture of the soil can well be imagined.

The death rate among Europeans during the year is by far the heaviest on record, viz., 23 as compared with 17 in the year 1893; this out of an estimated population of 150, being nearly 16 per cent. or 154 per 1,000 against 19.5 in England, can only be termed appalling, and clearly shows that this part of Africa is still unfortunately entitled to be termed "the white man's

grave."

EDUCATION.

LAGOS. 1894.

The number of assisted schools in the Colony is 33, the same as last year; there are 55 departments in the schools, viz., 24

infant, 24 primary, 2 secondary, and 5 industrial.

The number of children on the registers of the inspected schools are as follows: Anglican, 1818; Wesleyan, 643; Roman Catholic, 707; United Native African, 140; the Anglican having a percentage of 54.96, which is the largest, and the United Native African the smallest, viz., 4.23.

In 1893 the total number attending the schools was 3,315. which shows a decrease of seven for this year; the United Native African School which had a total last year, the first year of its existence, of 305 has only 140 on its rolls this year, or a decrease

of 165.

The distribution of the school children according to religion stands as follows: Christians, 2,374, showing an increase of 26; Mahommedans, 442, an increase of 30 as compared with last year;

Pagans, 492, a decrease of 63 as compared with 1893.

The Mahommedans are still opposed to having their schools under the operation of the Education Ordinance; not only have those in power used every argument to prove to them the advantages that would accrue to the children now attending Koranic schools if they consented to accept European forms of education in those schools, but the Sultan of Turkey, in the month of July. addressed a letter to the Moslems of Lagos urging them to provide instruction in western learning for the rising Moslem generation; the truth is, the older men are afraid of their sons becoming more learned than they are, and that is openly stated as the reason of their objecting to the Koranic schools being improved by the introduction of English subjects.

The total income of the assisted schools is 5,339l. 13s. 10d., and the expenditure 5,399l. 16s. 1d., or an excess of 60l. 2s. 3d. which is wholly on the side of the Roman Catholic schools; this is due to the smallness of fees received notwithstanding the good

attendance.

The Government grant for the year amounted to 1,064l, 14s. 11d., a decrease of 129l. 6s. 11d. as compared with 1893.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The year 1894 can well be described as a year of prosperity and progress, and fully justifies the active policy pursued in the Hinterland of the Colony; the whole of Yorubaland is now reaping the benefits which accrue from peace, the result being a steady flow of trade from the interior to the large markets of the

The relations existing between this Colony and the adjacent tribes are of a most friendly nature. In January a treaty was signed with the Egbas defining the boundary between their 8

LAGOS. 1894. country and the Colony; in November Her Majesty assumed Sovereign rights over certain territories ceded to the Colony by the Chiefs of Jebu, and Jebu Remo, and a Protectorate was also

proclaimed over the whole of the latter territory.

During the year an officer was appointed Resident of Ibadan the most important town of Yoruba-land, having a population of over 150,000; a force of Houssas, under two European officers, has also been stationed at Odo Otin, which is the boundary between the Ilorin and Ibadan tribes and is distant about 80 miles from the River Niger.

The establishment of military posts in the interior under command of European officers has resulted in the total collapse of the slave trade, and has given security to those using the trade

routes.

A range of mountains, the highest point being 4,700 feet, was discovered by Sir G. Carter in the Idanre country; their distance from the lagoon as the crow flies is reckoned at 50 miles, and from the capital of the Colony approximately 120 miles.

His Excellency,
The Acting Governor,
Lagos.

I have, &c.
G. B. HADDON-SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 167.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, see No. 112 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

June 11, 1896.



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1896.

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135	Newfoundland -	-	-			1893
136	Gold Coast	-				
137	Zululand					1894
138	Bermuda					19
139	Bahamas		10.			"
140	Barbados			•.		22
141	Turks and Caicos Islands					,,
142	Malta					29
143	Gambia					"
144	Windward Islands -					"
145	Trinidad and Tobago					"
146	Gibraltar					29-
147	Falkland Islands -				-	"
148	Hong Kong -	-			-	22
149	Straits Settlements -				-	"
150	Lagos			-	-	"
151	Seychelles	ak has	10.00	BRIDE EN		"
152	Basutoland				-	1894-
153.	Fiji	-	•.			1894
154	St. Helena -		_		-	,,
155	Ceylon					,,
156	Mauritius -				66.	39-
157	Labuan	-				
158	Gold Coast -		-			"
159	British Guiana -					23
160	Sierra Leone -				-	99
161	Jamaica				-	1894-
162	British Honduras -	-				1894
163	British Bechuanaland	4			-	1894-
164	Newfoundland -	•				1894
165	Gambia					1895
166	Bermuda			-		"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. Color		ny.		Subject.		
1 2 3	Gold Coast Zululand - Sierra Leone		:	Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany.		
4	Canada -		-	Emigration.		
5	Bahamas -	-		Sisal Industry.		

No. 167.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

[For Report for 1893, see No. 112.]

Sir F. FLEMING to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Antigua,

Sir, April 28, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Blue Book for the Colony of the Leeward Islands for 1894, together with the report on the same, which has been prepared by the Acting

Colonial Secretary, Mr. W. D. Auchinleck.

2. I must express my regret at the delay which has taken place in the preparation of the Blue Book. Such has partly been caused, as mentioned by the Colonial Secretary, by the many changes which occurred last year in the staff of the Colonial Secretary's office, and partly by the difficulty of obtaining all the information required from the different islands which form the Colony.

3. As I only assumed the administration of this Government in March 1895, I do not feel in a position to make any comments

on the condition of the Colony in the year 1894.

4. I would, however, remark, with reference to the observations contained under the heading "Leper Asylum," that a measure is now before the Legislative Council of Antigua to provide for the better care of lepers, while I trust that some better accommodation than is now provided for these unfortunate members of the

community may soon be found.

5. It is satisfactory to notice the many improvements that have been made during recent years in connection with the postal arrangements for the Colony. The large increase of 33,672 letters and papers which passed through the Post Offices in 1894 over the number posted in the previous year, is a proof that advantage has been taken of the facilities offered, while it may be also taken as a sign of the advance of education generally among the people.

I have, &c. F. FLEMING. ISLANDS. 1894.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1894.

REVENUE.

The revenue of the Colony for the year was 147,357l., being 10,347l. in excess of the revenue of the previous year. This excess was contributed by the several Presidencies in the following proportions:—

						£
Antigua -	-				-	6,797
St. Kitts-Nevis	-			-	-	1,584
Dominica -		-				635
Montserrat -	-		-	-	-	306
Virgin Islands		-			-	1,025

The increase in Antigua was made up by 1,825l., having been realised by the sale of obsolete postage stamps, 3,744l. premiums gained on the sale of inscribed stock under the 100,000l. loan, and by the receipt during the year of arrears of contributions for the maintenance of prisoners, lunatics, and boys, sent from the other Presidencies.

In St. Kitts there was a gain of 2,700*l*. under Import and Excise, due principally to the completion of the coastguard system commenced in the previous year; 884*l*. was also contributed by rents, post office receipts and taxes; fees of court fell off by 285*l*., and miscellaneous receipts by 1,792*l*., the decrease in the latter is, however, due to the circumstance that wharfage dues were included in 1893 under this head as ordinary revenue.

The sale of obsolete postage stamps realised 639*l*. for Dominica, fines also contributed some 261*l*., which, with trifling increases under other heads, counterbalanced the decrease of some 330*l*. under Excise.

In Montserrat the only item of revenue which differs from the previous year is the excess under miscellaneous, caused by 2961. 12s. having been received for the sale of the old stamps.

The Virgin Islands also received 9534. 5s. for the sale of the obsolete stamps of that Presidency.

Expenditure.

The expenditure of the Colony for 1894 was 156,1821., and was in excess of that of the previous year by 16,1221.

In Antigua the charges under Head No. 1, Public Debt, showed a very marked excess over 1893, which is explained by the following:—

As interest on advances prior to the raising of	£
	1,226
Gain on sale of inscribed stock paid over to the	
	3,744
And interest to bondholders of the loan above	
mentioned	2,019

5

The retirement of Mr. Wylde and the allowance of pensions to pilots with the payment of arrears to these persons for 1893 has

caused the excess under the head of pensions,

The expenditure under Board of Health was also increased by 497L, in consequence of special work in cleaning several ponds in the Presidency during the dry season of the year, and by additional expenditure on quarantine services.

Miscellaneous has shown the following increase:—1901. under interest and overdrafts and exchange, 2061. as the expenses of the Yaws Commission, and 216l. under Public Band and Printing.

St. Kitts-Nevis.

The charges for interest and sinking fund were increased through an additional loan for public works having been raised during the year.

Pensions have also been increased by the retirement of Messrs.

Wylde and Semper and by the payment of arrears of 1893.

Under Police a sum of 1,962l. is included as the expenses

of the coastguard service.

The cost of maintenance of hospitals and charitable institutions has generally increased, through the insufficiency of the demand

for labour consequent upon the short sugar crop.

Education also shows increased expenditure by a marked increase on the roll of the primary schools and by the establishment on a proper basis of a high school for secondary education.

In Anguilla 1,600l. has been spent by way of establishing a fibre industry in that island, and additional expenditure of some 8501. has been incurred under head No. 26, Extraordinary Works, on the purchase of police stations, repairs to roads, hospitals, and St. Peter's Church, erecting a Treasury building at Sandy Point, and in the extension of the water services at Cayon and Nevis.

Dominica.

The ordinary expenditure of this Presidency shows an increase of 1,675l., which was distributed in small sums between the various heads of service; under Extraordinary Works there was special expenditure on the Roseau sea-wall and on roads and bridges, &c.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debt of the Presidencies was increased in 1894 by 100,000l. in Antigua and by 23,500l. in St. Kitts-Nevis; the sinking funds for the extinction of the debts of the Presidencies were increased by 5,994l., 3,744l. of which was the investment of the premiums gained in the sale of the inscribed stock under the Antigua Loan of 100,000l.

Public Works.

The following details show the expenditure of the several Presidencies on works of a recurrent nature:—

LEBWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

441

6

	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
Repairs to Public Buildings	£ 388	£ 240	£ 413	£ 42	£ 4	£ 1,087
Repairs to Roads and Bridges	3,197	2,666	2,108	641	17	8,629
Water works	658	832	7	39	-	1,536
Fire Brigade	122	352		- 1	_	474
Botanical Stations	493	117	378	47	-	1,035
Burial Grounds	238	204	20	13	-	475
Government Houses and Grounds -	177	19	23		_	219
Agricultural Department	- 1	1,538		-	_11	1,538
Other Works	175	1,180	150	-	- 1	1,505
Total	5,448	7,148	3,099	782	21	16,498

POPULATION.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

According to the Blue Book returns for 1893 the total population of the Colony was 131,333, the births in 1894, as shown by the following table, were 5,256, and the deaths 3,933, causing an increase of 1,323 for the year. The following table gives the births and deaths of each island:—

Is	land,			Births.	Deaths.	Increase.	
Antigua			-	1,476	1,303	173	
Barbuda	. 7		-	43	21	22	
St. Kitts	-		-	1,377	1,300	77	
Nevis -	-	-	-	605	449	156	
Anguilla	-			138	60	78	
Dominica	-	-	-	930	484	446	
Montserrat			-	532	228	304	
Virgin Islands	•			155	88	67	
				5,256	3,933	1,323	

The population of the two principal islands of the Colony would appear from these figures to have been but slightly increased, while in Montserrat and Anguilla the per-centage of births over deaths shows a considerable addition. It is not, however, possible to give correct returns of the population of the Colony since 1891, as there are no records kept of either emigration or immigration.

EDUCATION.

The rolls of the primary schools have again shown considerable increase, although not equal to 1893; the increase during 1894 was 1,310, as against 1,614 in the previous year, the average attendances have risen from 11,439 in 1893 to 12,069 in 1894. The grants made by the Governments in 1892 and 1893 to the several denominations in St. Kitts and Nevis towards increasing the school accommodation in those islands have caused a very marked result in the first-mentioned island, the number on the school roll in that island having advanced from 6,089 to 6,911, while the average attendance has been increased by 608. In Nevis, although the number on the roll has remained the same, the attendances have been advanced by some 63. In Antigua the rolls show an increase of 337, while the attendances have decreased by 179. In Montserrat the figures of the two years show scarcely any difference, which, in some measure, may be accounted for by the insufficiency of accommodation.

The offices of headmaster of the Government grammar school and analytical chemist in St. Kitts, which were held by the same person, were in 1894 separated, with the result that the average number of boys in the school increased from 3 in 1893 to

ISLANDS. 1894. 20 in 1894, and with the further advantage that candidates are now prepared and presented for the Cambridge Local examinations.

With the exception of the Coke Memorial College in Antigua and the high school for boys in Montserrat, all other schools for

secondary education show some improvement.

The training schools of the Colony show an increase on e 31st December of 44 boys and 6 girls, the admissions during the year being 68, while the discharges and deaths were respectively 13 and 5.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The values of the total Imports and Exports of the Colony, exclusive of internal trade, were respectively 430,708l. and 439,548l., as against 440,879l. and 542,082l. in 1893. An examination of the following table shows that while the Imports from the United Kingdom and British Colonies fell off by 20,319l., the increase in the value of goods imported from the United States of America and other foreign countries was 10,148l.

Value of Imports.

Country from whence imported.	Value of Imports, 1894.	Value of Imports, 1893.	Increase in 1894.	Decrease in 1894.	
	£	£	£	£	
United Kingdom	206,920	221,073		14,153	
British Colonies	47,951	54,117		6,166	
United States	161,594	154,066	7,528	-	
Other Foreign countries -	14,243	11,623	2,620	-	
Total	430,708	440,879	10, 148	20,319	

The comparison of the figures for these two years exhibits the fact that, while the imports from the United Kingdom have decreased by 14,153l., the trade with the United States has increased by 7,528l.; in examining the following tables marked B. and C., in which the value and particulars of the principal articles of imports are shown, it will be observed that the decrease has been chiefly in such goods as are used by or on sugar plantations, and on further reference to the value of sugar exported by the Colony it will be at once seen that the decrease in trade is due solely to the purchasing power of estates having been diminished by the low prices realised in 1894.

TABLE B.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

COMPARATIVE VALUE of the IMPORTS from the UNITED KINGDOM in 1893 and 1894.

Autiolog		1893.	1894.	1894.		
Articles.		1899.	1094.	Increase.	Decrease:	
Live animals		1,020	170		850	
Food stuffs	-	19,872	18,302	-	1,570	
Drinks	-	11,467	11,364	_	103	
Narcotics	-	327	363	36	_	
Raw materials	-	1,754	1,318	_	436	
Manufactured textile articles	-	103,823	108,747	4,924	_	
" metal "	-	34,945	26,134	_	8,811	
Other Imports		47,865	40,522	-	7,343	
Total		221,073	206,920	4,960	19,113	

TABLE C.

RETURN showing the PRINCIPAL MANUFACTURES under which large differences appear.

Articles	1893.	1894.	1894.		
Atticles:	1030.	1034.	Increase.	Decrease.	
Manufactured Textile Articles.	£	£	£	£	
Cotton, woollens, &c	66,044	66,728	_		
Haberdashery and millinery -	36,743	41,665	_	_	
Clothing and cloth	1,036	354	-	-	
	103,823	108,747	4,924		
Manufactured Metal Articles.					
Hardware, &c	19,231	17,031	_	1-	
Sewellery	1,399	1,019			
Sugar machinery	12,770	7,067		_	
Other machinery	1,278	457	_		
Miscellaneous machinery -	267	560	-	- `	
	34,945	26,134		8,811	

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

Articles.	1009	1893. 1894.		1894.		
Arucies.	1895.	1894.	Increase.	Decrease.		
Other Imports.	£	£	£	£		
Decreased values of over 400l			Harris .			
appear in the following:-						
Bricks and tiles -	2,011	539	-			
Leather -	,,,,,,	3,105		_		
Lime		806	-			
Manures	20,011	17,938	_	-		
Packages	0,20,	3,555	-	-		
Paints	1 2,020	1,467	_	-		
Rope	2,034	1,508	_	-		
Oil	1,473	1,018	_	=		
Wood hoops	1,742	1,243	-	_		
Soap	4,140	3,640		-		
Furniture	1,323	779	_	-		
	43,295	35,598		7,697		

The difference under this head between the Tables B. and C. is consequent upon the value of other importations having been somewhat increased. Trade has, however, in no way been diverted from the United Kingdom to other places, but the decrease in the value of imports is, as I have already remarked, due entirely to the general depression of business through the low price of the staple industries of the Colony.

In Table D. I give a comparative return of the values of the principal articles of imports from the United States of America. Under food stuffs there is a marked increase in the value of wheaten flour, while under oleomargarine there is a decrease of nearly 1,000l.; the trade in lumber has been almost equal; oilmeal shows an increased consumption of 815l., and shooks used by

estates has decreased by 746l.

TABLE D.

COMPARATIVE RETURNS of the VALUE of the PRINCIPAL ARTICLES imported from the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

		1893.	1894.	1894.			
		1030.	1034.	Increase.	Decrease.		
Flour, wheaten -		57,854	65,508	7,654	1		
Meal	-	12,199	12,377	178	_		
Corn	-	10,455	10,779	324	_		
Oleomargarine -	-	4,527	3,532		995		
Pork	-	17,429	17,231		198		
Lumber		14,365	14,186		179		
Oilmeal and cake	-	8,138	8,953	815	3		
Shooks	-	5,065	4,319		746		
Total -	-	130,032	136,885	8,971	2,118		

The value of all other goods imported from the United States during 1894 shows an increase of only 9751.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

EXPORTS.

By way of illustrating the effect that the low prices of our staple products had on the several Presidencies, I give in the following table a statement of the quantity and value of the principal

articles of export during 1893 and 1894.

From these figures it will be noticed that, although there was but a difference of 2,657 tons between the exports of 1893 and 1894, the value was reduced by 91,007l. There is also a marked decrease in the value of cocoa, limes, and lime-juice which are the principal exports of Dominica; this is consequent upon a smaller crop with a fall in the prices of these articles.

TABLE E.

Antilon		189	93.	1894.		
Articles.		Exports.	Value.	Exports.	Value.	
Sugar, tons		34,742	£ 436,807	32,155	£ 345,800	
Molasses, puns. of 100 galls.	•	10,817	33,708	10,690	30,101	
Rum, galls		100,059	5,238	42,864	1,724	
Cocoa, lbs	-	687,492	14,329	635,478	8,655	
Limes and limejuice -	-		24,005	-	12,284	
Total	-		514,087		398,564	

In addition to the above five principal articles of export the Colony also shipped, exclusive of internal trade, the following minor products:—

Animals -	-			-	3,417
Fruit and vegetab	les		-	-	1,949
Salt -	-	-	-	-	1,296
Starches -	-	-	-		771
Bay leaves	-	-	-	-	1,660
Charcoal and firev	wood	•	-	-	1,252
Dye woods	-	-	-	-	1,677
Hides and skins			-	-	704
Essential oils and	essence	s -	-	-	1,610
Other miscellaneo	us expo	rts	-	-	1,414
	-				100

The internal trade of the Colony also represented a value of 10,710*l*.; of other exports, which may be regarded as being reshipments of imports, the value was 39,905*l*.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1894. Nearly three-quarters of our trade was as usual with the United States of America. The neighbouring French Colonies received 9,813*l.*, of which molasses for the manufacture of spirits represented 7,276*l.*

The following table gives a comparative return of the total

exports for 1893 and 1894:-

	189	94.		189	93.	
	Produce of Colony.	Other Exports.	Total.	Produce of Colony.	Other Exports.	Total.
United Kingdom - •	80,613	2,066	32,679	58,941	420	59,361
British North America -	61,245	•120	61,365	43,967	221	44,188
Other British Colonies -	2,185	11,446	13,631	2,288	1,295	3,583
	94,043	13,632	107,675	105,196	1,936	107,132
United States of America	305,023	725	305,748	405,917	1,050	406,967
Other Foreign Colonies -	15,248	10,877	26,125	19,871	8,112	27,983
	414,314	25,234	439,548	530,984	11,098	542,082
Internal Trade	10,710	14,671	25,381	7,398	14,487	21,885
Total	425,025	39,905	464,929	538,382	25,585	563,967

Within the past two or three years the trade in Muscovado sugar with British North America is being steadily pushed forward by the commercial agents of that country; in 1893 the exports of this article were only 2,020 tons, while the shipments this year have risen to 4,099 tons.

SHIPPING.

In the accompanying tables I give the particulars of the entries and clearances of shipping in the Colony during 1893-94:—

Entered 1893.

British o	or F	oreig	n.	Steam	Steam or Sailing.				
British ·	-	-		Steam	J.			832,645	
"	-		-	Sailing	-	-	-	41,942	
Foreign .	-	-	-	Steam	-	-	-	917	
,,				Sailing	-	-	-	28,549	
								904,053	

Cleared 1893.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

British o	r F	'oreig	n.	Steam	or S	Sailing	g.	Tonnage cleared.
British .	210			Steam			-	832,645
",	- 1		-	Sailing	-	-	-	41,418
Foreign .	-	-		Steam		-	-	917
,,		-	٠	Sailing			-	27,510
								902,490

Entered 1894.

British	or I	oreig	n.	Steam	Tonnage entered.			
British	-			Steam	-	-	-	869,881
,,,		-		Sailing			-	44,679
Foreign		-		Steam	-		-	1,007
"	-1		-	Sailing			-	25,585
				Sale Sale				941,152

Cleared 1894.

	British	or I	Foreig	gn.	Steam	Steam or Sailing.				
В	ritish		-		Steam			-	870,141	
	"	-	•	-	Sailing		-	-	44,665	
F	oreign	-	-		Steam	1977	•	-	1,007	
	"	-	-	-	Sailing		-	-	25,718	
									941,531	

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1894. The direction of the trade during 1894 was as follows:—
1894.

Tonnage enter	ed from		Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	
United Kingdom		100	8,574	1,515	10,089	
British Colonies -		-	14,257	16,469	30,726	
United States -		-	6,237	10,443	16,680	
Foreign Ports -	-	-	303,588	23,125	326,713	
Internal trade		-	538,232	18,712	556,944	
Total -			870,888	70,264	941,152	

1894.

			Tonnage	cleared	Total.
			Steam.	Sailing.	Total
United Kingdom				_	_
British Colonies -		-	42,617	12,028	54,645
United States -	0.0	-	12,403	10,581	22,984
Foreign Ports -		-	295,004	25,507	320,511
Internal trade -	T	-	521,124	22,267	543,391
			871,148	70,383	941,531

It is necessary to explain with respect to the above return that steam vessels arriving from the United States of America invariably call at one or other of the neighbouring foreign islands before arriving at any of the islands of this Colony, vessels so arriving are entered as from the last port; these vessels in like manner usually clear for either St. Thomas or St. Croix on their homeward voyage to America.

Prisoners and Gaols.

The returns for the year show that the tot number of prisoners received in the gaols	al of	
the Colony was	-	1,779
Of these the committals for non-payment	of	
fines were	-	1,326
For peremptory imprisonment	-	361
For debt on judgment summons -		4
For conviction by Supreme Courts -	-	33
For safe custody	•	55
		1,779

1,014 of these committed were males, 741 females, and 24

juveniles :-

On comparing the returns shown by the following two tables it will be observed that there was a marked increase in the number committed for non-payment of fines and for peremptory committals; committals after two or more previous convictions also exceed 1893, while those having but one previous conviction or sentenced by the Supreme Courts are less during the year under review.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

			Nature of the Imprisonment.											
		By superior Courts.	Peremptory Imprison- ment.	For Non- payment of Fines.	One previous Conviction.	Two previous Convictions.	Three or more previous Convictions.							
1893		49	270	1,275	296	181	377							
1894	•	33	361	1,326	277	155	390							
Increase in 1894		_	91	51	12	24	13							
Decrease in 1894		16	_		19									

Term of Imprisonment.

		Five Years' or more.	One Year or more, less than Five.	More than Three Months and under One Year.	For Three Months or less.
1893	-	4	28	65	1,497
1894	•	3	25	80	1,612
Increase in 1894		-		15	115
Decrease in 1894	•	1	3		-

With the increased number in the prison the admissions to hospital were more numerous, but the returns show that the daily average on the sick list was 2.73 below 1893, while the deaths in gaol were I against 3 in the previous year. The daily average in prison was $116\frac{1}{2}$.

Under Criminal Statistics it appears that the number of summary convictions in St. Kitts show a very marked increase both under offences against property (other than predial larceny)

and under offences not specified.

In Dominica the increase of offences against the laws relating to social economy was due to the combined resistance against the payment of taxes. I give the following figures by way of comparison:

Island.		Year.	Total No. of Offences.	Assaults and other Offences against the Person.	Malicious Injury to Property.	Predial Larceny by Boys under 16.	Against Property other than malicious Injury and Predial Larceny.	Against Revenue, Highway, Health, and Acts relating to Social Economy.	Against Master and Servants Acts.	Other Offences.
Antigua -	ſ	1893	2,206	538	11	143	126	178	309	895
Antigua -	- {	1894	2,013	537	15	135	121	196	214	795
St. Kitts-Nevis	-1	1893	2,698	751	19	142	294	528	69	895
DI. MILLS-INGVIS	1	1894	3,595	584	24	172	570	87	58	2,100
Dominica -	-1	1893	1,965	207	19	95	89	1,243	24	288
Dominica -	1	1894	2,457	174	29	119	99	1,632	12	392
Montserrat -	-1	1893	292	69	_	16	59	37	10	101
Mioniscitat 3	ì	1894	467	98	3	40	78	44	17	187
Virgin Islands	-1	1893	70	17	1	2	7	8		35
A HPITT TENTING	ì	1894	50	19	1	2	4	6	_	18

17

COLONIAL REPORTS. -- ANNUAL.

The total number of cases to be dealt with during the year was 17,605; of these 5,307 were discharged for want of prosecution or evidence, 3,553 were dismissed, 8,582 summary convictions, 94 committals to the superior courts, and 69 remained untried in the magistrates' courts.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1894. 453

Legislation.

There were two meetings of the Federal Council during the year at which 15 Acts were passed and have become law; the most important were, one to simplify the procedure with respect to the administration of estates of deceased persons, and trusts; and those amending the Acts relating to partition and settled estates.

"An Act to establish a Mutual Fire Assurance Society for the Leeward Islands," with the usual Acts relating to the service of

the Colony were also passed.

In St. Kitts-Nevis, Ordinances for the prevention of smuggling, and for the better collection of the duties on spirits and tobacco were passed; the consolidation and amendment of the several laws relating to waterworks, and an Ordinance to provide for the draining and cleaning of certain marsh lands in the vicinity of Basseterre, were about the most important laws passed in that Presidency.

In Dominica, Acts were passed to raise a loan of 30,000l. to defray the cost of certain public works and for covering the excess of expenditure from 1883 to 1893; an Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to trade and revenue was also passed.

Hospitals and Asylums.

On the 1st January 1894 the number of persons in the hospitals of the Colony exclusive of those in the Yaws Hospital in Dominica was 454, the admissions during the year were 2,841 so that the cases treated numbered 3,295; of these 1,477 were discharged as being cured, 990 as relieved, and the deaths were 476.

The following table gives the particulars relating to each hospital in the Colony:—

Hospital.		Hospital.		Hospital.		In the Hospital on 1st Jan. 1894		Admissions.	Discharged as cured.	Discharged as relieved.	Deaths.
Antigua -	•		140	1,197	218	758	244				
S.K. Cuningham		-	144	905	707	94	120				
" Pogson -			31	284	181	52	43				
Nevis		-	48	105	43	21	26				
Dominica -		-	17	296	204	48	29				
Montserrat -			62	44	19	14	10				
Virgin Islands			12	10	_	3	4				
Total -			454	2,841	1,372	999	476				

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1894. On comparing the above figures with the returns of the previous year, it will be observed that the number of cases treated in the year were 45 less; the per-centages of those discharged as cured in 1893 and 1894 were respectively 38.6 and 41.6.

Yaws Hospital.

The returns relating to the Yaws Hospital in Dominica show that there were 127 cases treated in 1894, as against 135 in the previous year, and that the number cured was 105 as against 103; the comparison is therefore in favour of 1894 both as to the number of cases treated and cured.

Lunatic Asylums.

At the Rat Island Asylum 42 patients were admitted as against 39 in 1893; 22 were discharged as cured or relieved, against 25 in the previous year, and the deaths were in 1894, 16 against 29. The staff of resident servants was increased in 1894 by 11; much improvement has also been made with respect to the general treatment of lunatics by the institution being provided with the services of a warder and nurse who had been trained in a European asylum.

At the Ridge the admissions were 7, the discharges as cured 5, and the deaths 3, the daily average being 33 as against 35 in 1893; this asylum, which is occupied by such lunatics as are either non-violent or show signs of being cured, is situated at a good elevation, and is on the site of the barracks formerly used by European troops. It is under the immediate supervision of the district medical officer, who daily visits the institution.

Leper Asylum.

The asylum in Antigua, which may be regarded more as a home for such lepers as are very poor or have no relatives able or willing to support them, is conducted on a very primitive and inexpensive plan, and is limited as to accommodation; the admissions during the year were 6, and the deaths the same in number. Legislation on the lines of the St. Kitts Ordinance has been frequently mentioned, but up to the end of 1894 the question still remained undecided, with the result that the inmates absent themselves without permission and wander freely about the streets of the town.

From the returns relating to the St. Kitts Asylum the greater number of admissions in 1894 would make it appear as if leprosy were on the increase in that presidency. I am, however, given to understand that this is not the case, but that the increase is attributed to the fact that those who suffer from the disease do not now regard the asylum with the same aversion as formerly

19

but look upon it more in the light of a home in which every comfort is generously provided.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

Savings Banks.

The returns for 1894 show that the deposits during the year were 24,212*l*., and the withdrawals 23,587*l*., and that the amount of deposits and investments were respectively increased by 625*l*. and 2,040*l*. The number of depositors increased in Antigua and Nevis by 116 and 11; while in St. Kitts, Dominica, and Montserrat they decreased by 7, 16, and 11, leaving a net increase for the Colony of 93.

POST OFFICES AND TELEPHONES.

Post Offices.

The improvements made in recent years in postal arrangements, together with the advancement of education in primary schools, are being evinced by the annually increasing number of letters and papers which pass through the post offices of the Colony; a comparison of the figures for the two years shows the increase to have been 33,672.

1893.

	Marine.	MIE				1000				Harris III	
				Letters a	and Cards.	Papers a	nd Books.	Parce	ls Post.	To	otal.
				Received from	Despatched to	Received from	Despatched to	Received from	Despatched to	Received from	Despatched
United Kingdom			-	50,573	45,760	79,851	8,835	4,458	789	134,882	55,384
United States	-			29,031	18,496	23,147	2,365	126	65	52,304	20,926
Other places -	-	-	-	130,311	124,820	28,391	19,990	860	386	159,562	145,196
Tota ¹ -			-	209,915	189,076	131,389	31,190	5,444	1,240	346,748	221,506
						1894.					
United Kingdom .	-	-	-	51,878	45,869	89,134	10,520	4,390	806	145,402	57,195
United States -			-	28,437	17,245	23,519	2,079	190	54	52,146	19,378
Other places -			-	139,961	135,276	27,891	23,433	854	423	168,706	159,132
Total -				220,276	198,390	140,544	36,032	5,434	1,283	366,254	235,705

Telephones.

Under this service the figures of 1894 show an increase of 40 miles of wire and of 33,507 calls. The returns of the two Presidencies in which telephonic communication has been established are as follows:—

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1894.

			Instruments in Use.	Miles of Wire.	No. of Calls.
Antigua, 1893	-	-	158	325	190,168
,, 1894		-	144	345	205,364
Increase		-		20	15,196
St. Kitts, 1893		-	52	162	46,806
" 1894	-	-	84	182	65,117
Increase	-	-	32	20	18,311

General Remarks.

In concluding my comments on the several items of the Blue Book, I must again revert to the very great falling off in the trade of the Colony, and draw special attention to the effect of the reduced values of our exports on the several Presidencies of the Leeward Islands.

The Presidencies of Dominica and Montserrat suffered severely through a smaller cocoa and lime crop, and from a reduction in the market value of these articles, but the chief loss was experienced by Antigua and St. Kitts, in which sugar manufacture might be said to be the only industry.

A difference of some 91,000l in the value of the sugar exported in 1894 will illustrate how severely the sugar-producing Presidencies were affected, and on reference to the items, machinery, manures, and other articles usually imported by sugar plantations, it will be at once observed that no improved machinery was introduced, and that the importation of manures was very much limited—in fact, the expenditure on estates was restricted to mere cultivation and manufacture only.

Good progress was made in cutting the channel through the bar at the entrance of the harbour of St. John's; and the conversion of the associated cells in the common gaol of the Colony into the solitary system was proceeded with.

Sanitation received some attention, and although much still remains to be done, considerable advancement in this direction has been made during the year.

W. D. AUCHINLECK,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 172.

MALTA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 142 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

July 1896.



LONDON:

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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Co	lony.				Year.
136	Gold Coast -	-				1893
137	Zululand				-	1894
138	Bermuda		10.		-	•
139	Bahamas			-	-	,,
140	Barbados	-	-		-	29
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	-			-	"
142	Malta			-		,,
143	Gambia	-	-		-	"
144	Windward Islands -	-	-		-	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	-	-	-1-	-	,,,
146	Gibraltar				-	99
147	Falkland Islands -		-		-	99
148	Hong Kong -	-		-	-	"
149	Straits Settlements -		-		-	"
150	Lagos	-	-		-	"
151	Seychelles	-	-	-	-	99
152	Basutoland			-	-	1894-
153	Fiji	-	-		-	1894
154	St. Helena	-	-		-	,,,
155	Ceylon			•	-	"
156	Mauritius	-		-	-	>>
157	Labuan	- 10-10			-	"
158	Gold Coast				-	"
159	British Guiana -	-				,,
160	Sierra Leone -	-	- F		-	99
161	Jamaica	-	•		-	1894-
162	British Honduras -			-		1894
163	British Bechuanaland	-	-		-	1894-
164	Newfoundland -	-			-	1894
165	Gambia	-			11 -	"
166	Bermuda -			-	-	25
167	Leeward Islands -			-	-	"
168	British New Guinea	- 17		28 -		1894-
169	Zululand -	-	-			1895
170	Sierra Leone -	-	F 63.17	-	-	99
171	Gibraltar	-	4	-	-	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

To.	Colon	у.		Subject.		
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.		
2	Zululand	-	-	Forests.		
3	Sierra Leone		-	Geology and Botany.		
4	Canada -		-	Emigration.		
5	Bahamas -		-	Sisal Industry.		
6	Hong Kong	-		Bubonic Plague.		

No. 172.

MALTA. 1895.

MALTA.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 142.)

Sir A. J. LYON FREMANTLE to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Palace, Valletta, June 9, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, for your information, the Chief Secretary's Report on the Blue Book for the year 1895.

I have, &c.

ARTHUR LYON FREMANTLE, Governor.

Chief Secretary's Office, Valletta,
June 9, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the
Blue Book for the year 1895:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The total revenue for the year was 305,440l. 14s. 3 $\frac{3}{4}d$., against 301,858l. 13s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}d$. in 1894, showing a net increase of 3,582l. 0s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}d$., and an increase on the estimated revenue of 5,409l. 14s. 3 $\frac{3}{4}d$., due chiefly to larger returns under the following general heads:—

- a. Customs.
- b. Fees and reimbursements.
- c. Post Office.
- d. Railway.
- e. Water service.
- f. Interest.

Decrease of revenue to some appreciable extent is noticeable under the following heads:—

Habana			£	s.	d.
Harbour and quarantine dues	-	-	616	14	7
Licenses, court fines, &c			244		4
Rents (rural)		1-0	128	6	31
Rents (urban)		-	195	6	4
Rents on account of charitable	institutio	ons	10	13	01
o 92610. Wt. 20348.					

MALTA. 1895. The following table gives a summary of the revenue receipts for the year 1895, compared with those of the previous year:—

	1895.	1894.	Increase.	Decrease.
Customs	£ s. d. 168,729 3 7	£ s. d. 168,086 19 5	£ s. d. 642 4 2	£ s. d.
Harbour and quarantine dues -	8,905 14 2	9,522 8 9		616 14 7
Licences, Court fines, &c	5,605 5 53	5,849 9 93	_	244 4 4
Fees of Court, or office payments for specific services, and reim- bursements	22,623 1 43	22,142 3 11	480 17 53	
Post Office	13,337 17 9	11,685 1 11	1,652 15 10	_
Railway	5,963 2 0	5,603 17 0	359 5 0	
Water service	8,316 19 9	7,626 18 101	690 0 101	_
Rents, rural	13,368 9 10	13,496 16 11		128 6 34
Rents, urban	27,233 16 6	27,429 3 03	-	195 6 6
Rents on account of charitable institutions	3,980 17 9%	3,991 10 10	_	10 13 01
Interest	$27,376 6 0\frac{1}{2}$	26,424 4 1	952 1 111	- 77
Total	305,440 14 33	301,858 13 94	4,777 5 33	1,195 4 91
	-	_	3,582 0 61	

The Customs receipts, which form the most important source of revenue, have not expanded at the same rate in proportion to the increase of previous years. This is due to the decrease in the receipts derived from duty on cattle imported, which have fallen off by 3,115*l*. 1s. on the amount realised in 1894. It is held that the reduced importation in the year was caused by the high price of cattle in Barbary, a circumstance which deterred importers from buying and importing larger consignments than what was immediately required for actual consumption. It is, however, gratifying to notice that under other heads the Customs duties have kept up their normal progressive elasticity, and that, notwithstanding the falling off in the cattle duty, the aggregate revenue of the Customs shows a net increase over 1894 of 642*l*. 4s. 2d.

The increase in fees and reimbursements was chiefly under three new items of revenue, which have only recently come into operation, viz., (1) Proceeds of sale of plants, &c. from public gardens, (2) fees for the use of the traction engine employed in emptying cesspools, and (3) fees on notarial contracts collected by the Government notary. Of these, the first and third were formally received and appropriated by the departments concerned without being accounted for as revenue, the second item (traction engine) is a new source of revenue, accruing from a municipal undertaking for emptying cesspools, organized by the Government in connexion with the newly created Public Health Department. This undertaking, besides affording sanitary advantages, has proved to be likewise financially remunerative.

MALTA. 1895.

The revenue earned by the Post Office has continued to expand under almost all its sub-heads of receipts, but especially by the sale of stamps, share on parcels-post inwards, and international transit rates. This increase is mainly due to the newly-established daily mail service with the Continent, under a contract with the Austro-Hungarian Company, by the "Adria," and the consequent larger volume of correspondence and of parcel-post traffic. It must, however, be noted that in 1895 the Post Office received on account of arrear charges due for previous years for international transit rates the sum of 1,746l. 5s. $9\frac{1}{2}d$, and that, therefore, the increase of 1,652l. 15s. 10d. over the revenue of 1894 is not to be considered as an index of the normal progressive increment of the postal revenue.

The following figures of the revenue and expenditure of the Post Office during the last three years, whilst indicating a steady increase in the service, show that all the profits of the concern are expended to the advantage of the class of persons who

contribute to this special source of public receipts:-

	Year.		Reve	nue.	Expenditure.		
	ing y		£ 10,869	s. d.	£ 11,122	s. d.	
1893	-	-	10,869	3 8	11,122	6 5	
1894			11,685	1 11	10,856	17 11	
1895			13,337	17 9	13,737	11 5	

The Railway Department realised an increase of revenue to an amount of 359l. 5s. This undertaking is steadily, though slowly, progressing, and is expected to become more remunerative than it is at present when the extension of the line beyond Notabile will have been completed. The revenue and expenditure of this concern during the last three years were as follows:—

Year.		Revenue.	Expend	Expenditure.		
		£ s. 6	ł.	£ 5,234	s.	d.
1893 -	-	4,751 18	8	5,234	12	0
1894 -	-	5,603 17	Q	5,009	15	9
[-	- 1	5,963 2	0	5,745	19	8
1895 Spec	ial, on	capital accoun	nt	- 1,942	16	0

The water supply undertaking, which is another municipal enterprise yielding revenue, showed an increase of 690l. 0s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$. on account of supply of water and rent of meters. This undertaking is financially unremunerative. The large capital sunk in the waterworks does not, and cannot under present regulations,

MALTA. 1895. pay any interest. The advantages, however, accruing to the public on the score of public health and sanitation are of such importance as to be considered a set-off to the pecuniary loss of the undertaking, when considered as a commercial investment of public money. It is, at any rate, a matter of satisfaction to note that the revenue earned for supply of water and rent of meters is progressing favourably, as shown by the following figures:—

				£	S.	d.
In 1893	-	PI Des	-	5,676	17	10
In 1894	-	1	-	5,849	13	91
In 1895	-		100	6,701	3	10

Under the head of interest, the receipts show an increase of 952l. 1s. $11\frac{1}{2}d.$, which is due to additional dividends from investments made at the close of 1894, to the larger profit obtained from the operations of the Monte di Pietà, and to additional interest brought to account on further sums advanced

to the Malta Railway Department.

After reviewing the heads of revenue which yielded larger receipts than on the previous year, some observations may be noted on such of the items in regard to which a diminution of receipts was experienced. Of these, the first is the head of "Harbour and Quarantine Dues," the revenue of which has decreased by 616l. 14s. 7d. The causes of such diminution are principally to be attributed to the reduction in the number of steam vessels calling at our port, owing to the general depression of trade, and to the competition in coaling by other ports in the Mediterranean. This state of depression does not, so far, show any signs of amelioration, and the prospects of even keeping up this standard of revenue to its present figure do not appear to be very hopeful.

The decrease of the revenue under the head of "Licences, Court Fines, &c." by 244l. 4s. 4d. is not of such a nature as to, call for any particular comment. There was a small reduction on the receipts for licences for keeping wine and spirits shops and for carrying guns. The amounts of court fines inflicted are

likewise somewhat lower than in the previous year.

The source of revenue next in importance after the Customs is that derived from the rents of the landed estate administered by the Government. The decrease of these receipts, as compared with those of 1894, amounted, on the whole, to 334l. 5s. $10\frac{1}{4}d$. This amount is not large in itself, but, small as it is, it clearly indicates that the highest obtainable market value of the house property of the Government was reached in the year immediately preceding, and that Government rents are no longer, generally speaking, liable to further development. The apparent prospects would be that, as far as house property is concerned, it will remain firm at its present rental, but as regards agricultural lettings the Government must be prepared to expect a further diminution of the revenue. The following figures bear out this conclusion:—

400			Urban Property.			Rural Property.		
In 1893		-	£ 26,421	s. 7	$d.$ $7\frac{1}{4}$	£ 13,866	s. 11	$\frac{d}{3\frac{1}{4}}$
In 1894			27,429	3	$0\frac{3}{4}$	13,496	16	$11\frac{1}{4}$
In 1895	-	-	27,233	16	6	13,368	9	10

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure of the year amounted to 301,550l. 16s. $9\frac{1}{4}d$., being 9,868l. 14s. $5\frac{1}{4}d$. over that of the previous year. It was, however, kept within the revenue, which, as shown above, reached 305,440l. 14s. $3\frac{3}{4}d$.

The following is a comparative statement of the Treasury disbursements compared with 1894:—

Carlotte Carlotte	1895.	1894.	Increase.	Decrease.
Charges on account of interest and burthens -	£ s. d. 20,126 3 10	£ s. d. 18,210 10 $9\frac{1}{2}$	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Pensions	15,399 4 5	14,146 4 8	1,252 19 9	
The Governor and Legislature -	4,752 2 10	4,899 13 1	-	147 10 3
Chief Secretary's Department -	4,134 9 5	4,302 15 9	_	168 6 4
Receiver-General and Director of Contract's Department	2,890 4 3	2,691 4 0	199 0 3	_
Customs and Port Department -	10,674 16 3	10,204 6 10	470 9 5	_
Audit Department	1,617 19 3	1,414 19 0	203 0 3	-
Printing office	1,138 18 1	1,114 13 10	24 4 3	-
Railway Department	5,745 19 8	5,009 15 9	736 3 11	Li-Lin
Railway Department, special expenditure -	1,942 16 0	al algore (3)	1,942 16 0	
Legal Department	18,605 2 1	18,665 17 10	- In	60 15 9
Police	37,897 2 0	42,578 19 4	1 -	4,681 17 4
Public Health Department -	10,887 13 1112	7 1-11	10,887 13 1112	
Prisons	3,637 14 2	3,599 7 5	38 6 9	null even
Charitable Institutions, including the Monte di Pieta	41,191 16 3	42,341 3 5	-	1,149 7 2
Education	21,414 9 8	20,667 7 5	747 2 3	_
Post office	13,737 11 5	10,856 17 11	2,880 13 6	-
Ecclesiastical expenditure -	1,240 0 2	1,227 7 10	12 12 4	9
Military expenditure	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	-	-
Miscellaneous services	10,628 17 81	10,463 10 1	165 7 71/2	-
Superintendent of Works Dept.	6,196 16 6	6,759 11 2	-	562 14 8
Public works recurrent	49,200 17 91	56,213 13 2½	- 1 - - 1	7,012 15 54
Public works extraordinary -	13,490 1 1	11,314 3 0	2,175 18 1	-
Total	301,550 16 91	291,682 2 4	23,652 1 41	13,783 6 112
And the second discourage of		Sin Lieus	9,868 14 51	

In analysing the above expenditure it is important to point out the fact that, by the adoption on the 1st January 1895 of the schemes for the amelioration of the salaries of the clerical staff, of the staff of the charitable institutions, and of the junior members of the teaching staff in the primary schools, the general annual expenditure of the Government has been increased by 5,500l.; independently of the above fact, the heads of service under which other important increase of expenditure is noticeable in 1895 are the following :-

a. Charges on account of interest and burthens.

b. Pensions.

- c. Railway Department
- d. Public Health Department.
- e. Post Office.
- f. Public Works.

The principal causes of such augmented expenditure under the three first-mentioned heads of service (a, b, c) were the following: - The additional interest paid to the savings bank for further investments and the larger instalment transferred in the year from revenue towards the formation of the general reserve fund; the greater amount of pensions granted, on some of which arrear payments were effected; and the special expenditure incurred on account of the purchase of a new locomotive engine for the railway. As regards the other three heads of service (d, e, f) the following remarks are submitted:

The increase of expenditure on account of charges, other than personal emoluments, incurred for the service of the Post Office amounts to 2,262l. 7s. 3d., and this increase is to be attributed chiefly to the new postal contract for the conveyance of daily mails between Malta and Syracuse, according to which the annual subsidy payable by Government was increased from 4,400l. to 6,000l. There were also extraordinary payments arising from the settlement of charges of arrears of previous years on account of conveyance of mails and International transit rates, and owing to the expense incurred for the purchase of two Post Office vans. The entire cost of this department, as compared with that of the two preceding years, gives the following result:-

				£	s.	d.
In 1893			-	11,122	6	5
In 1894	-	-		10,856	17	11
In 1895	-	-	-	13,737	11	5

The expenditure under the other heads of service, exclusive of Public Works Extraordinary, was below that of the preceding The diminution of expenditure under the heads of Police, Charitable Institutions, and Superintendent of Works Department, is due to the transfer of several minor branches of the service to the Public Health Department.

During the year under review, a new department was created under the designation of Public Health Department under which several previously scattered branches of service were brought

together and reorganised. In this important department, at the head of which is placed the Chief Government Medical Officer, all services in connection with the sanitary laws, the district medical service, the drainage works, and the slaughter houses have been centralized. It is expected that by the organisation of this new department all matters affecting public sanitation will be more congruously and effectively supervised and controlled, to the general advantage of the community. In this first year of its existence the cost of the department amounted to 10,887l. 13s. 11½d., but, on the other hand, a proportionate decrease in the expenditure has thereby been obtained in the other departments from which the various sub-branches were segregrated, amounting to 10,139l. 7s. 4d.

Under the head "Legislature," the decrease of expenditure is due to the non-payment of the salary attached to the vacant post of Vice-President of the Council; and under the head of "Public Works annually recurrent" such diminution was caused by the reduced number and extent of works and repairs during the year as compared with those effected in the previous year. The decrease of expenditure under the other departments is too

insignificant to call for any special explanation.

The cost of the Public Works Department Staff was below that of previous years, for the reasons already stated. As regards its expenditure, irrespectively of the staff, the provisions voted were as follows:—

			£		d.
Recurrent works -	-	-	56,783	12	1
Extraordinary works		BATE.	26,884	3	1
giving a total of	1.0		83,667	15	2

whilst the actual expenditure amounted only to-

				£	s.	d.
Recurrent -		one Ven	-	49,200	17	$9\frac{1}{4}$
Extraordinary	bra- lau	nou - sec	SAL S	13,490	1	î
Total	de - cha	san - i	•	62,690	18	101/4

From the above figures it will be seen that no less a balance than 20.976l. remained unexpended at the end of the year.

The provisions voted under Ordinance No. V. of 1891 out of the fund accruing from the proceeds of sales of the immovable property of the Colony were, during the year, the following:—

	£	8.		
Railway	7.247	2	4	
Erection of a new school house at Notabile	1,060	0	0	
Improving Crown Property yielding rent	300	0	0	
Total	8,607	2	4	The last of

MALTA. 1895.

Out of the above provisions, and out of other provisions previously taken under the aforesaid Ordinance, the following items of expenditure were incurred in 1895, viz.:—

	£	S.	d.
For railway works	2,582	2	3
Towards the purchase of the "Palazzo	THE STATE OF		
Parisio" (General Post Office) -	17	7	7
Towards the erection of a school house			
at Victoria, Gozo	29	5	10
Towards the establishment of lighting			
by electricity	6,177	16	$3\frac{1}{2}$
For the improvement of Crown property			
yielding rent	173	6	2
Towards building a court house and			
police station at Zeitun	342	14	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Towards the erection of a hospital for			
contagious diseases in Gozo	126	0	11
For the erection of a new school house at			
Rabato, Notabile	- 880) 1]	8
			-
	10,329	5	()
	-	-	-

All the above works are considered to represent, either by the payment of interest directly, or by the saving of expenditure out of public revenue, a rate of interest corresponding to the income previously obtained from the investment of the capital in the old 3 per cents.

PUBLIC WORKS,

The works of importance which were in progress, or which were taken in hand, in 1895 and upon which extraordinary expenditure was incurred out of the revenue, are the following:—

Towards the erection of a new abattoir, 1,091l. 13s. 4d.; construction of a shelter for boats at Marsalforno, 700l. 4s. 5d.; planting of trees, 781l. 11. 9d.; waterworks (exclusive of maintenance), 6,804l. 13s. 8d.; reconstruction and remodelling of roads, streets, and moles (exclusive of maintenance), 1,827l. 17s. 11 $\frac{1}{2}d$.; drainage works (exclusive of maintenance), 940l. 5s. 10d.; and the construction of a shelter for boats in the Calcara Creek, 556l. 16s.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The Council was in session when the year opened; on the 20th February 1895 the Council was adjourned to the 22nd May.

On the 18th May the Council was prorogued to the 3rd of June, and on the 1st of that month it was dissolved, and a general election was ordered to be held within three months from that date.

The new session opened with the new Council on the 23rd October and continued beyond the close of the year under review.

11

The Council met 17 times during the period between the 3rd of January and the end of the year 1895.

MALTA. 1895.

LEGISLATION.

The following are the most important legislative enactments passed in 1895:—

Ordinance No. III. of 1895.

"To amend the Ordinance promulgated by Proclamation No. VIII. of 3rd November 1837."

This Ordinance was introduced in order to give effect to a resolution which had been proposed by the representative of landowners and of the holders of titles of nobility, and agreed to unanimously by the Council of Government in October 1894. That resolution was in the following terms: "Resolved that a humble address be made to his Excellency the Governor, praying that he may be pleased to direct that the duty which at present is paid on the importation of cattle be no longer calculated per head, but that it be calculated on the weight of live cattle, at the

rate of four shillings per cantar" (175 lbs.).

Before the enactment of this Ordinance, the import duty which, according to Proclamation No. VIII. of 1837, has to be levied by the Collector of Customs on cattle was regulated as follows: "On " bullocks and other animals of the kind, per head 10s." That tariff was established at a time when steamers were not capable of bringing large quantities of cattle from Russia, and when consequently the small and light cattle imported from Barbary were the source of principal supply of the Island. But for several years a great change in the meat trade has taken place. Cattle in considerably increased numbers come from Russia, and the weight of each head of Russian cattle is generally double that of the animals imported from other usual sources of supply. It therefore became illogical to maintain the standard for levying the duty on cattle established by the above quoted proclamation, whereby small and light cattle were taxed just the same as heavy beasts fattened and fit for market. By following the old system the Government was in effect offering a bonus to the exporters of meat from Russia, and was maintaining a restrictive and almost prohibitive duty against the growers of live stock from the Barbary States, Algiers, Tunis, &c., and against the industry of importing store animals and fattening such light cattle in Malta.

In order to abolish such an illogical system of levying duty on cattle, the new Ordinance was passed, by which in Article 1. it is provided that the Collector of Customs shall levy, instead of the duty established by the Ordinance promulgated on the 3rd November 1837, "a duty of one shilling for every 25 rotoli " (43\frac{3}{4} \text{lbs.}) or for any fraction of such unit of weight, on all " live cattle (bulls, oxen, cows and their young) and on all

" fresh, frozen, or preserved meat (beef) imported into these " Islands."

The Council and the Government adopted the view that the proposed change in the standard for levying the duty on cattle would not cause a reduction of that source of revenue, but that it might increase it. This conclusion is based on the fact, supported by the experience of over 50 years, that the weight of the cattle imported from Barbary, Tunis, Algiers, Greece, and Sardinia is generally between 200 and 300 rotoli rising very seldom to 500, and that consequently the duty of 10s. had been originally calculated to be levied on cattle of an average weight of 250 rotoli (equal to 437½ lbs.) corresponding to 1s. per every 25 rotoli, as provided in the Ordinance. It was considered expedient that fractions of the unit of 25 rotoli should be subject to the duty to be levied on the unit of 25 rotoli to avoid complications in the accounts.

Articles 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 contain such provisions as appeared necessary to change the standard of reckoning the drawbacks, which had been previously regulated on the system of levying the duty on cattle at 10s. per head. The easiest way of settling the various difficulties connected with this point seemed to be that embodied in the above quoted articles; namely, that the duty to be refunded to the Imperial authorities on each and all heads of cattle disposed of by the Imperial authorities should be calculated on the weight of the animal at the time when duty was paid thereon, and on the amount of duty paid on each head of cattle as

entered on the records of the Custom House.

The provision of Article 6 has a two-fold object:-

(a.) That of giving to any contractor for the supply to the Army and Navy, who is usually bound to keep a large reserve of live cattle, the advantage of not paying duty before three months from the date of importation, within which period of three months it was supposed that any such cattle would probably be slaughtered; and

(b.) of enabling the Government of these Islands to refund the drawback to the Imperial Government without any actual transfer of money being usually required except as a book

transaction.

Power is given to the Collector of Customs by Article 2 to cause every head of cattle imported, on its being weighed for the purpose of ascertaining the duty payable thereon, to be branded by a mark determined by the Collector of Customs and with a number, for the evident purpose of enabling the Custom House to identify any head of imported cattle and thus to prevent any fraud against the provisions of the Ordinance, and also of enabling the military authorities to find out the heads of cattle which should form part of the established reserve.

Article 4 subjects to certain punishments whosoever shall forge, falsify, or alter, marks or numbers placed by the authorities at the

Custom House upon imported cattle.

471

Article 8 limits the operation of the Ordinance to one year. That Article was insisted upon by the elected members, evidently with the intention of testing the effects of the new enactment, both in the interest of the trade and of the revenue, by the experience of the working of the Ordinance during one year.

The Ordinance commenced to take effect on the 6th March, 1895, according to the provision of Article 9. It has worked satisfactorily, without giving rise to any very serious complaint or causing an increase in the price of meat.

Ordinance No. IV. of 1895.

"To make some provisions for relieving agriculturists and owners of cattle from losses consequent upon the destruction, in the interest of the public health, of slaughtered cattle."

The object of this Ordinance is to give power to Government to undertake the insurance of cattle before it is slaughtered, so as to protect the owner against the risk of the animal being found diseased and consequently destroyed by the sanitary authorities. The justice of the proposal, which was urged by the representative of the nobility and landowners, was admitted for two reasons: (a) that it was necessary to offer compensation to the agriculturist whose beef might be condemned, as the loss of a beast would in the generality of cases involve the ruin of an average farmer, who from a thrifty and honest position of independence often finds himself in the predicament of being worse than poor, and (b) that it enables the custodians of the interests of public health to condemn bad or suspected meat, without the risk of being influenced by any consideration as to the effects that their decision may have on the fortunes of owners of any condemned animal.

The premium to be paid on the insurance was limited in Article 2 to a rate between three and six per cent. on the value insured and the sum to be insured was limited to 90 per cent. of the value of the insured animal as estimated by the officer charged with the duty of effecting such insurance.

The provisions of Articles 3 and 5 of the Ordinance tend to safeguard the Government against the risk of this new enterprise and to enable the Government to limit the liability arising from the insurance of cattle.

Ordinance No. VI of 1895.

"To make some provisions relating to property subject to a fidei commissum."

The object of this ordinance, which was passed on the 20th February 1895, is to make some provisions relating to property subject to entail.

The first provision of this enactment extends to property subject to entail certain provisions of Ordinance No. VII. of 1868, whereby power is given to any co-owner of property held in common (if it cannot be divided without disadvantage or by the apportionment of property of a different kind, but of equal value, or if in a portion of property held in common there be a portion which no one of the co-owners can have or wish to have) to obtain its sale by licitation or auction, in order that the price thereof may be divided between the co-owners.

The justice of this provision is universally admitted. It has often occurred that the principal co-owners of some very valuable property subject to entail could not dispose of their respective shares in it, although the disposal could be effected on conditions positively advantageous to themselves and to the persons entitled to property next after them, owing to extravagant ideas of a co-owner, and in some cases to his endeavours to bargain as to the grant of his consent for the disposal of the whole property.

Ample provisions are made for safeguarding the rights of the persons called to succeed to such property next after the holder

for the time being.

Provisions are also made for a safe and profitable investment of (a) the proceeds of licitation of common undivided property subject to entail, (b) the amount of the indemnity representing the property ceded in cases of expropriation on the ground of public utility, and (c) the price, or the part of the price, of property subject to entail the revocation of which may have been ordered

for any ground other than for a reason of public utility.

It was desirable that an investment should be provided in each of the cases now mentioned, as, in each of them, the relinquishment by the co-owner or by the party expropriated of his property is compulsory, and he may not find a profitable and safe investment at the time when the money representing the value of his property is paid to him. In the case of licitation, of expropriation, or other transfer of entailed property, a provision for a safe and profitable investment of the proceeds in local funds was evidently required in the interest of the persons called to the enjoyment of the capital after the dispossessed owners of the entailed property.

A mode of providing for a safe and profitable investment in a local fund had already been dealt with by the Government in Ordinance No. V. of 1860, whereby it was enacted that sums of money not inferior to 50l. and belonging to minors or persons considered by the law as idiots, insane, or prodigal, to widows and to any persons having interest in a dowry or a settlement on a wife, might, by order of the competent Court, be invested in the purchase of a perpetual annuity to be, on such order, constituted by the Government of Malta, at the rate of two and seven-eighths

per cent.

The advantage of the same form of investment was by the Ordinance under review extended to the persons referred to in the same. But, in view of the present low average net interest on investments in consols, it appeared just that the rate of the annuity to be paid by the Government should not exceed two and a half per cent. The provisions of Ordinance No. V. of 1860 (with the omission of several provisions which became unnecessary in view of other subsequent laws) were embodied in the present Ordinance, by which the former was practically revoked in the repealing clause contained in Art. 20.

Two other provisions of the Ordinance extend the power of the Court of voluntary jurisdiction (1) to authorize the holders of property subject to any divisible or indivisible fidei commissum to grant such property on emphyteusis under certain conditions, and (2) to revoke any entail, whether divisible or indivisible as regards any particular tenement, or other property subject thereto, when the income from it does not, after deducting all burthens, exceed the sum of 4l. sterling and this independently of the consent of those who are called to the entailed property after the possessor

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENTS.

During your Excellency's absences from the Island, Major-General C. B. Knowles, C.B., was appointed, and acted, as Deputy Governor from the 26th August to the 26th September, and Major-General John Fletcher Owen, R.A., from the 9th to the 15th October.

The Honourable F. Vella, C.M.G., acted as Chief Secretary to Government during my absence from the 17th June to the 26th September, the ordinary duties of his office as Collector of Customs having been performed by his deputy.

POPULATION.

The total estimated population of these Islands on the 31st December 1895 was 172,537 against 170,265 in the previous year, showing an increase of 2,272. The mean of the population, taking into account the normal increase to the middle of the year, is estimated at 171,826. On these latter figures the following estimates of marriage, birth, and death-rates are based.

The number of marriages recorded during the year was 1,008,

or a rate of 5.8 per 1,000 of the population.

The births registered in these Islands during the year numbered 6,859, or a rate of 39.9 per 1,000 of the mean population. Compared with last year an increase of 145 births is shown Of the births, 3,635 were males and 3,224 females.

The deaths recorded in the year numbered 4,587, the rate per 1,000 of the mean of the population being 26.6; 48.2 per cent. of

the deaths were those of children under five years of age.

MALTA. 1895.

GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK.

The number of depositors and the amount of deposits in the Bank for the last ten years were as follows:—

			No. of Depositors.	Amount at credito Depositors on 31st December.	
				£	
1886	-	-	5,128	376,253	
1887	-	-	5,133	389,031	
1888	- 7	-	5,197	397,550	
1889	-	-	5,317	427,878	
1890		-	5,694	461,166	
1891	-	-	5,969	475,202	
1892	-	-	6,073	486,900	
1893		-	6,259	502,746	
1894	-1	-	6,538	517,070	
1895	-	4 -	6,063	473,042	

From the above it will be seen that both the number of depositors and the amount of deposits have progressed regularly every year, and that only in the year under review they, for the first time, shrunk, the former by 475 and the latter by an amount of 44,028l.

The cause of the above decrease was a misrepresentation, propagated by political agitators, of the effects of Ordinance No. VI of 1895, the provisions of which have already been explained under the head "Legislation" in this report.

Various rumours having been spread among the lower classes that the Ordinance was connected with the Savings Bank, and that it comprised some scheme of spoliation, some depositors, who were in no way affected by the provisions of the said Ordinance, were induced to withdraw their deposits from the Savings Bank.

That Ordinance did indeed authorise the Government to establish certain $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. annuities, which would always have a market value, and could be sold like other securities, but it did not in any way compel any one either to invest his money in these annuities or to buy the securities of this Government in preference to British Funds or other securities.

Over 50,000l. were thus withdrawn between August and November last, after which date, however, the business of the Bank again tended to resume a normal condition.

The expense of management and interest credited to depositors in 1895 amounted to 8,286l. 8s. 5d., while the revenue collected was 13,375l. 5s. $5\frac{1}{4}d$., thus showing a net profit of 5,088l. 17s. $0\frac{1}{4}d$. on the year's transactions. The revenue compared with the preceding year shows an increase of 260l. 19s. $4\frac{1}{4}d$.

1895.

17

113 students.

EDUCATION.

The following is a list of the educational establishments maintained by Government as reported in the Vice-Chancellor's Annual Report to the Senate of the University for the year 1894-95:—

attended by

1 University

1 Lyceum ,,		529	99	
1 boys' secondary school		47	pupil	s.
1 girls' secondary school		128		
112 elementary schools -		,503	hild	ren.
				· OII.
The elementary schools are distribu	ted as to	llows:	_	
Boys', model, 1; elementary, in	n Malta	, 28;	in	
Gozo, 9	-	-	-	38
Boys', drawing (day), 5; evening	g, 4		-	9
Night, in Malta, 21; in Gozo, 3	JEKE HOZ	- Parker	-	24
Girls', model, 1; elementary,	in Malta	, 29;	in	
Gozo, 9			~	39
Girls', infant, in Malta, 4; in Go	ozo, 1	-	-	5
Mixed, infant		-	-	17
Girls', drawing, in Malta -		-		4
Wood carving and modelling	-	- 250.	111	4
Technical and manual -		- 10	128	1
Sunday	r-1960 05	- 41 83	0.0	1
			7 -	
				142
			-	

The average per-centage of attendance in the elementary schools during the scholastic year 1894-95 is reported to have been 83.9

per cent. of the number (15,226) on the school registers.

In view of the fact that attendance is not compulsory, it can be regarded as satisfactory when compared with reports of other countries where a compulsory system prevails. The general average of per-centage of passes was as high as 90.4 per cent., which appears to be satisfactory.

3,742 children left the different elementary schools during the year; 4,124 were admitted, and 6,292 remain on the books (an increase of 531 on the number of the previous year) as seeking admission, but who have to wait to be admitted in view of lack

of accommodation.

The new school in course of construction at Notabile, capable of accommodating 1,200 children, and the proposed building of another school at Musta, will to some extent meet the present want of accommodation, which is detrimental alike to the health of the children and to the extension of the system of elementary education.

The total expenditure during the scholastic year 1894-95 amounted to 18,856l. 12s. 2d. and the income from students' fees, examination fees, &c. to 1,048l. 16s. 4d.; the difference, 17,807l. 15s. 10d., is therefore the net expenditure incurred from

MAI.TA. 1895 public funds on account of the Education Department, as detailed hereunder:—

Establishment.			Gross Expenditure.	Income.	Net Expenditure.		
University , -			£ s. d. 3,403 1 3	£ s. d. 586 18 2	£ s. d. 2,816 3 1	£ s. d. 15 2 10	
Lyceum			2,593 7 9	222 12 4	2,370 15 5	5 3 1	
Secondary school, Gozo			235 0 0	. Le zanti	235 0 0	5 0 0	
Secondary school, Malta			370 2 1	239 5 10	130 16 3	1 0 51	
Elementary schools -		-	12,255 1 1	-	12,255 1 1	1 1 31/2	
Totals -	•		18,856 12 2	1,048 16 4	17 807 15 10		

Besides the above Government schools, there are 128 private schools in Malta and Gozo in which elementary and general instruction is imparted to 3,814 pupils, of whom 1,970 are males and 1,844 females.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The total imports in 1895 amounted to 13,099,978l. against 13,773,783l. in 1894, a decrease of 673,805l.

The imports in the two years were as follows:-

		1895.	1894.
From United Kingdom -		£ 174,350	£ 171,154
" British Colonies -	-	324,916	221,888
" Her Majesty's ships	(T)	236	393
" Foreign Countries -	-	12,600,476	13,380,348
Total	-	13,099,978	13,773,783

These figures show that, while there was a diminution of foreign trade to the amount of 779,872*l*. there was a collective increase of 106,224*l*, in the trade with the United Kingdom and the British Colonies.

Of the total imports in 1895, 802,891*l*. is the value of goods actually landed at this port and 12,297,087*l*, the value of cargoes carried in vessels which merely touched and proceeded without unloading. The corresponding figures in 1894 were 735,822*l*. and 13,037,961*l*. respectively.

From the above it will be seen that, though there was a decrease in the total value of the imports, the value of goods imported for home consumption exceeded by 67,069/. that of the preceding year: notwithstanding, therefore, complaints of commercial de-

pression, the statistics of the Customs Department do not show that there has been any diminution in the volume of local trade as regards, at least, articles subject to duty.

The imports in the two years for home consumption were as

follows :-

				1895.	1894.
From United Kingdom				£ 174,350	£ 171,154
" British Colonies		9.50	-	2,285	2,094
" Her Majesty's ships		-	-	236	393
" Foreign Countries				626,020	562,181
Total	2000	40-31	-	802,891	735,822

Of the total imports from foreign countries in 1895, a sum of 481,677l. represents the value of wheat, wine, bullocks, oil, and seeds, the principal articles of consumption, imported in that year, against 432,441l. in 1894. Such articles not being imported from the United Kingdom but in very small quantities (5,140l. in 1895 and 2.833l. in 1894), the comparison between the value of all other goods subject to duty imported from the United Kingdom and from foreign countries will stand as follows:—

a democratica in a second control of the control of		1895.	1894.
From United Kingdom -	de llada e	£ 169,210	£ 168,321
" Foreign Counties -	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	144,343	129,740
Difference in favour of the Unite	d Kingdom	24,867	38,581

The total exports in 1895 amounted to 13,231,813l. against 13,086,747l. in the preceding year, viz:—

6 13 131 131				1895.	1894.
To the United Kingdom				£ 2,859,870	£ 2,737,744
" the British Colonies				3,317,533	3,978,977
" Her Majesty's ships		1.	-	6,817	6,373
" Foreign Countries	-	-	-	7,047,593	6,363,653
Total		9-	-	13,231,813	13,086,747

MALTA. 1895.

Of the total exports in 1895 the sum of 13,177,642*l*. is the value of whole cargoes carried in ships which merely touched at this port and proceeded, and 54,171*l*. value of the exports from portions of cargoes which were actually landed.

The exports of local produce and manufactures cannot, in default of the maintaining of a Statistical Department, be

efficially stated.

SHIPPING AND TRADE.

The arrivals of vessels at this port in 1895 were as follows:—

2,676 steam vessels, with a tonnage of 3,430,202, 1,283 sailing vessels, with a tonnage of 82,225, against

2,826 steam vessels, with a tonnage of 3,510,012, 1,300 sailing vessels, with a tonnage of 87,980,

in the previous year, showing a decrease of 150 steamers, 17

sailing vessels, and of a total tonnage of 85,565.

The falling off of steamers calling here is much to be regretted, inasmuch as the trade of Malta is largely dependent upon the number of vessels putting in at this port. The cause of this decrease appears to be in a great measure due to the general commercial stagnation elsewhere in Europe; but other causes may be noted, namely, the competition of the neighbouring ports of call such as Gibraltar, Algiers, and Port Said, the great increase in the dead-weight-carrying capacity of the average "tramp" steamer; the rapid displacing of the older type of steamers running to the Black Sea by new ships with triple expansion engines; the present freights, which are so low that it pays steamers much better to carry coals for long voyages rather than to call here and at other intermediate ports to fill up bunkers, as formerly, when more remunerative freights were obtainable. The disappearance of the transit trade owing to direct communications with other ports in the Mediterranean, especially with those on the African coast, has likewise contributed to produce the decline in the number of steamers calling at Malta.

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The total cost of the Prisons in 1895 was 3,873l. 18s. 3d., as against 3,861l. 17s. 8d. in 1894.

V	Adults.		lts. Juveniles.		m-4.3	Daily	Annual	
Year. Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Average.	Cost per Head.		
1894	5,074	554	1,474	14	7,116	233	£ s. d 16 11 5	
1895	4.628	700	1,458	17	6,803	227	17 1 3	

There were 200 punishments inflicted in 1895, as against 237 in 1894, viz:—	MALTA. 1895.
Solitary confinement on bread and water 103	
Dark cell on bread and water 17	
Reduction from class 20	
Admonished 60	
The amount of the prisoners' earnings during 1895 was 970l.	
The estimated value of labour performed outside	
the prison, reclaiming waste land, and cultivation £	
of prison lands, was - 160	
Inside the prison: mat and broom making, tailoring,	
carpentering, &c 800	
Sale of animals 10	
£970	
The health of the prisoners was good, 17 cases being treated in	

The health of the prisoners was good, 17 cases being treated in

hospital; one death occurred from remittent fever.

On the 18th March the female prisoners were removed from the Asylum for Aged and Incurables to the Corradino Prison, where a ward had been specially built for them.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1895 was 8,007, against 8,555 in 1894.

Of the offences reported in 1895-

1,211 were for offences against the person.

45 ,, the good order of families.

526 " " " property.

6,225 ,, other offences.

The total number of summary convictions in the Inferior Courts in 1895 was 13,312, against 13,718 in 1894.

These convictions are classified as follows:-

1,525 for offences against the person.

, the good order of families.

566 ,, property.

11,204 for other offences.

The convictions in Her Majesty's Criminal Court were as follows:

53 for offences against the person.

15 ,, the good order of families.

22 ,, property.

11 for other offences.

Of the above convictions, two were for murder, three for man-slaughter, and one for attempt of murder.

The acquittals were as follows:-

In the Inferior Courts - 918
In the Superior Courts - 73

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The following table shows the mean temperature and rainfall for the year:—

Month.		Temperature.	Rainfall	
Marin	FOLISEN		Fahr.	Inches.
January -			54.90	1.44
February			56.1	1.06
March -		-	58.7	0.65
April -		-	65.5	0.15
May -		-	68.9	0.65
June -	2	-	74.3	
July -	-	-	81.8	_
August -	- 0	-	81.7	0.57
September		-	77.2	0.15
October -		-	74.4	0.92
November	1.	-	68.6	2.28
December	71-	-	59.8	3.02
Total Y	ear	-20	68.5	10.92

It is generally admitted that the climate of Malta is equable and very healthy in winter. From November to April the average temperature is between 54 and 68, and refreshing sea breezes prevail during the summer months, which make the nights pleasant and cool, except during the prevalence of the sirocco wind.

The lowest air temperature recorded in 1895 was 41° Fahr. on

the 19th February, and the highest 92° on the 5th July.

The sanitary condition of the towns and suburbs was very good. The health of the Islands was also good, no disease of a contagious or infectious character having appeared during the year 1895.

I have, &c.
G. STRICKLAND,
Chief Secretary to Government.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 156.

MAURITIUS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, see Colonial Report [Annual] No. 120.)

Bresented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Col	ony.				Year.
120	Mauritius	•				1893
121	Straits Settlements -	-	•	-	-	,,
122	Labuan		-			"
123	Basutoland -	-		•		1893-4
124	St. Lucia -	-				1893
125	St. Helena -			•	-	"
126	Ceylon	•	-	-	-	"
127	Fiji	•	•	-	-	"
128	Grenada	-		-	-	"
129	Sierra Leone -	-		•		"
130	British Bechuanaland	•	-	7	•	1893-4
131	British New Guinea	•	•	•		1892-3&
						1893-4
132	Lagos -	-		resc.	-	1893
133	British Guiana -	•				1893-4
134	Jamaica	-		•	-	**
135	Newfoundland -	•		-		1893
136	Gold Coast	-	-	-	-	>>
137	Zululand				-	1894
138	Bermuda	-			•	"
139	Bahamas	•				>>
140	Barbados	-	•			"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands		-		-	"
142	Malta					77
143	Gambia	-	-	•	•	, 99
144	Windward Islands -	-	-		-	,,
145	Trinidad and Tobago	7.	•		•	99
146	Gibraltar	•	•	•	-	99
147	Falkland Islands -	-	•	•		"
148	Hong Kong -	-	•	•		,,
149	Straits Settlements -	•	•	•		"
150	Lagos		•		•	99
151	Seychelles	•	•	-	-	7004 5
152	Basutoland	-	-		-	1894-5
153	Fiji		•		•	1894
154	St. Helena -	•			4	>>
155	Ceylon			-	-	99

MISCELLANEOUS.

To. Colon		у.		Subject.
1 2	Gold Coast Zululand -	-		Economic Agriculture. Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	-	-	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -	-		Emigration.

No. 156.

MAURITIUS. 1894.

MAURITIUS.

(For Report for 1893, see Colonial Report [Annual], No. 120.)

SIR H. E. H. JERNINGHAM to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Mauritius, September 2, 1895.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you copies of the Mauritius Blue Book for the year 1894.

2. I also transmit herewith the report on the Blue Book which has been furnished by Mr. King-Harman, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

HUBERT E. H. JERNINGHAM,
Governor.

BLUE BOOK, 1894.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue for 1894 amounted to Rs. 8,534,427·49 and the expenditure to Rs. 8,587,039·27, leaving a deficit of Rs. 52,611·78 which had to be met out of the available balances in the Treasury.

As compared with the previous year, 1893, the revenue for the year under report showed an increase of Rs. 480,505.47 and the expenditure also an increase of Rs. 714,942.44.

The ratio of revenue to the population was Rs. 22.68 per head and that of the expenditure Rs. 22.82 per head.

o 89239. Wt. 20348.

PUBLIC DEBT.

Marramana	PUBLIC DEBT.											
MAURITIUS. 1894.	The public debt on 31st December 1894 stood as follows:—											
	Mauritius Debentures, payable 15th February 1895 and 15th January 1896	£	s.	d.								
	and bearing interest at 6 per cent Savanne Railway 4½ per cent. Debentures,	161,000	0	0								
	payable by annual drawings Moka Railway 4 per cent. Debentures,	59,900	0	0								
	payable by annual drawings in and from 1884	2,600	0	0								
	nance 1 of 1887 (including the loan made for the Mare-aux-Vocoas Water Works, 36,000l.) Poor Law Commission 5 per cent. Deben-	480,749	13	0								
	tures, issued in 1873	3,000	0	0								
	Hurricane Loan, 1892	600,000		0								
	Total Public Debt	1,369,849	13	0								
	For the redemption of £ s. d. the debentures and inscribed stock, the sinking fund accumu- lated up to the 31st December 1894 amounted to 224,404 19 8											
	Surplus Balances.											
	Treasury Rs. c. proper - 1,551,046 90											
	Savings Bank - 966,805 33											
	Commissioners of Currency - 586,184 69											
	Total - 3,104,036 92											
	Converted into £ sterling at 1s. $0\frac{20}{8}\frac{0}{2}d$. per rupee 163,370 7 6 Balance due from Loan											
	Commission - 393,684 6 0	781,459	13	2								
	Leaving a balance of -	588,390	19	10								
			2									

payable at periods ranging from 30 to 47 years and provided for in the gradual operation of sinking funds.

Assets and Liabilities.

MAURITIUS. 1894.

On the 31st December 1894, the accounts of the Commissioners of Currency showed:—

Cultency show						
					Rs.	c.
Assets -					4,611,299	69
Liabilities		- L		_	4,025,115	00
Sur	plus	-		-	586,184	69
The Governme	ent Savi	nos Banl	k showed			
eno dovomin	ciic Navi	ngo Dan	L SHOWCU		Rs.	c.
Assets -	ECRIPANIE		A Charles	10	4,307,871	78
Liabilities			The same of			
Liabilities				•	3,341,066	40
Surp	olus				966,805	33
						_
Curatelle (vac	ant estat	tes):-				
Caracone (vac						
outatone (vac		.45)			Rs.	c.
Assets -		-				
	1	-			Rs. 451,786	
Assets - Liabilities			-			
Assets -			-		451,786	48
Assets - Liabilities The Treasury			•		451,786 Rs.	48 c.
Assets - Liabilities The Treasury Assets -					Rs. 3,049,026	c. 40
Assets - Liabilities The Treasury					451,786 Rs.	

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Exclusive of specie and bullion, the value of imports in 1894 amounted to Rs. 21,096,011 and that of exports to Rs. 31,228,619.

The values in 1893, also exclusive of specie and bullion, were:—

						Rs.
Imports	*		-	-	-	18,899,939
Exports	-	-		-	-	22,176,486

The rate of imports per head of population was as follows during 1893 and 1894:—

					Rs.	c.	
1893 -		-		-	50	83	
1894 -	-		-	-	56	07	

The rate of exports per head of population was as follows:-

				Rs.	C.	
1893 -	-		-	59	67	
1894 -	-	-	-	83	00	

MAURITIUS. 1894. The exports of sugar manufactured in the Colony in 1893 and 1894 were as follows:—

	-			Quantity.	Value.
1893		•	-	Kilos. 86,057,841	Rs. 19,409,218
1894	7			138,431,733	28,461,574

The value of the other principal local products exported in 1893 and 1894 were as follows:—

	_		1893.	1894.
Rum -	•		Rs. 332,441	Rs. 424,632
Vanilla	-	-	83,895	82,720
Aloe fibre	-	+	264,840	17,1,526
Molasses	-	-	104,625	217,859
Cocoanut oil	-	-	251,198	59,565
Raw hides			33,539	33,499

The following are the principal markets to which the sugar of the Colony was shipped:—

	—		192	1893.	1894.
India -		-		Kilos. 39,804,432	Kilos. 73,335,600
Australia			-	7,114,642	17,075,354
United King	dom	-	-	10,235,082	11,828,624
Cape Colonie	s -		-	11,620,164	12,369,395
Ceylon	-	-	-	10,342,402	14,179,389
St. Helena			-	96,068	93,764
Hong Kong		-	-	1,406,524	2,074,888
France		selit.	-	2,084,926	112,491
Portugal		A .	-	2,570,911	-
America	-		-		3,898,806

The value of the principal imports for the years 1893 and 1894 MAURITIUS. was as follows:—

				1893.	1894.
				Rs.	Rs.
Animals		-	-	312,363	99,200
Apothecaries' ware -		-	-	155,692	76,793
Grain, flour, meal -	1		-	8,009,247	8,100,420
Malt liquors, wines, and spi	rits -			863,193	695,382
Provisions			-	1,088,017	1,392,200
Cottons	The state of	-	-	1,083,619	1,121,969
Woollens		-	-	163,227	181,733
Haberdashery		-	-	394,139	497,642
Coal	•		-	412,812	425,809
Machinery	-		-	99,539	169,620
Iron and steel -			-	215,105	225,931
Hardware and cutlery -			-	377,899	352,360
Leather (wrought and unwr	ought)	-	-	191,005	158,995
Manure and fertilizers -			-	1,806,518	724,193
Oil of all kinds			-	756,855	799,552
Tobacco				187,890	141,555

SHIPPING.

The following table gives the number of ships and their tonnage entered inwards and cleared outwards in 1893 and 1894.

Year.	In	wards.	Outwards.		
A GOA.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage	
1893	340	293,990	347	293,042	
1894	335	316,350	340	324,748	

Of the vessels that entered and cleared, 124 sailing vessels and 93 steamers were British; 25 sailing vessels and 51 steamers were French; 28 sailing vessels and 3 steamers were German; and 14 sailing vessels and 2 steamers were Norwegian.

There were also two American, three Danish, and two Swedish, sailing vessels.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the Colony may be divided into two main sections: Indian and general, or non-Indian. The former includes the immigrants or labourers imported for service on sugar estates, settlers from India, and Indo-Mauritians, or persons of Indian parentage born in the Colony; the latter comprises the native, or creole race, whether of European or African descent, and all foreigners domiciled in the island, including the Chinese, an important group, whose strength is estimated at about 4,000.

MAURITIUS. 1894. The estimated population at the close of 1894 was as follows:—

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Indian po	opulation				146,581	112,643	259,224
General	,,	-		-	60,047	56,948	116,995
	Total			-	206,628	169,591	376,219
	births reg Indian po			1894	were :—		875
	General	"		-		- 4,	287
		To	otal	-		- 14,	162
The	deaths:						
	Indian po	pulat	ion		-	- 7,	207
	General	,,		•		- 3,	585
					1	10	700

The mortality of 1894 was relatively low; the deaths numbered 10,792 against 15,307 of the preceding year when influenza prevailed. The corresponding death rate is 29 per 1,000, more satisfactory figures than usual. In 1886 and 1891 the death rate was a little lower, 28.9 and 27.2; but with these exceptions the death rate is one of the lowest recorded.

Total

10,792

The death rate among the Indian division was 28.1 while in the general division it was 30.9.

The death rate of the male population was 28.9, and that of the female 29.1, showing no appreciable difference.

LEGISLATION.

Thirty-one Ordinances were passed by the Council of Government in 1894, of which one was disallowed by Her Majesty and an Order in Council issued to effect the object which the projected Ordinance had in view.

The legislation of the year included many noticeable measures, of which the following may be briefly cited as the most important:—

(1.) An Ordinance for the administration of the loan fund. This ordinance creates a permanent department charged with the duties of managing the fund arising out of the loan of 600,000l. guaranteed by the Imperial Government, and raised

for the relief of planters and owners of houses after the disastrous hurricane of the 29th April 1892. The fund is charged with the payment of interest and sinking fund on the guaranteed loan as well as all expenses connected with the administration of the fund. The administration is vested in the Governor, and a board consisting of four officials and seven unofficial members of the Council of Government is created to advise him.

MAURITIUS. 1894.

- (2.) An Ordinance to amend the law relating to the Mare-aux-Vacoas water supply. This Ordinance was passed with a view to regulate the distribution of the filtered water now being supplied from the Mare-aux-Vacoas to an important section of the Island. It enacts stringent regulations in order to put a stop to the incredible waste of water which went on under the old system of water works; it introduces the meter system of supply for both domestic and non-domestic purposes, and was introduced in accordance with the recommendations of Mr. Osbert Chadwick, C.E., C.M.G.
- (3.) An Ordinance to provide for the carrying out of drainage works in the town of Port Louis. This Ordinance also was introduced to carry out a scheme by Mr. Chadwick for the underground drainage of a portion of the town. This scheme of drainage met with much opposition on the part of a considerable, and a not uninfluential, portion of the inhabitants of Port Louis, and was combated in its passage through the Legislature by the two metropolitan members. Otherwise there was perfect unanimity in the Council of Government as to the necessity of attempting the proposed experiment, and the measure was passed with two dissentients only.
- (4.) An Ordinance to empower the municipality of Port Louis to levy a tax on tenants' houses in the town. This Ordinance was introduced, at the request of the mayor and corporation, in order to assist the financial condition of the municipality, to which the Secretary of State for the Colonies had drawn attention. The members for Port Louis having declined to introduce the Ordinance, it was drafted and introduced by the Procureur-General, and passed after considerable discussion and opposition. In the meanwhile, the majority of the municipal council having expressed themselves against the principle of the Ordinance, no action has yet been taken to apply its provisions.
- (5.) An Ordinance to amend an Order in Council of the 13th April 1831 by substituting the sum of Rs. 10,000 for 1,000l. was introduced by the Hon. W. Newton, Q.C., senior member for Port Louis. This Ordinance gave rise to much interesting discussion, being opposed by the Procureur-General on the ground that it went beyond the powers of the Colonial Legislature. It was passed against the wish of the Procureur-General, and was afterwards disallowed, an Order in Council being issued by Her Majesty to effect the object which Mr. Newton had in view.

MAURITIUS. 1894.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The mean temperature in the shade between two open windows in a lofty room was 73.2 against an average of 73.5 for the last 20 years.

The absolute maximum was 86.4 on January 6th; the absolute

minimum 56.8 on June 11th.

The mean temperature from a maximum and minimum thermometer exposed in a Stevenson's screen on a lawn was 74·3, against an average of 74·5 for the last ten years. The absolute maximum was 93·5 on January 3rd, the absolute minimum 50·6 on June 10th.

So far as is yet known, there were nine tropical cyclones in the South Indian Ocean in the course of the year, two of which passed close to the Island, doing, however, no material damage beyond the upsetting of a train crossing a bridge whereby five lives were lost. The train was light, largely made up of carriages carrying an upper storey, and left the rails before the force of a violent gust of wind. The Observatory, where the meteorological observations are taken, is on a plain 179 feet above the sea level and about six miles from Port Louis.

In the upper parts of the Island the temperature is much cooler, varying between a maximum of 86 in the summer months, January, February, and March, to a minimum of 53 in the cool season, June, July, and August.

The rainfall in the higher parts is heavy, the average at Curepipe,

1,840 feet above the sea level, being 125 inches.

IMMIGRATION.

In 1894, 338 coolies were received from Calcutta and 381 from Madras. These men are supplied from the Emigration Agencies on requisition from the planters, and are employed on the cultivation of Sugar estates.

During the year, 754 coolies returned to India accompanied by

214 women.

EDUCATION.

Primary Schools.

There were in operation in 1894, 174 primary schools, viz: Government schools, 82; aided schools, 92. In 1893 there were 81 Government schools, and 87 aided.

The average number of scholars on roll in 1894 was:

In Government schools In aided schools	•	*	9,191 8,510
Total -	•		17,701
Average number in 1893			16,659
Increase	-		1,042

491

Of the total number of pupils at the end of 1894, 71.76 per MAURITIUS. cent. were creoles of either European, African, or Chinese descent, and 28.24 per cent. were Indians or of Indian origin.

Royal College.

The average number of pupils in the Royal College and Royal College School in 1893 and 1894 was as follows:—

	1893.		1894.	
Royal College proper	10	201	203	
Royal College School, Port Louis -	-	117	100	
Royal College Curepipe -	-	179	195	
Total	1.	497	498	

The expenditure on education in 1894 was Rs. 496,005.44, showing an increase of Rs. 19,916.20 over the disbursements of 1893.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1894 was 51,103, an increase of 11,756 over the reports in 1893.

The total number of convictions in the inferior courts was 19,995, an increase of 2,105 over the convictions in the previous

The convictions in the Supreme Court were:-

			1893.	1894.
Offences against the person -		- -	23	7
Offences against property	1		40	27
Other offences	-	-	4	11
Total			67	45
The acquittals were as	follow	's:-		
			1893.	1894.
Inferior courts		-	5,208	5,012
Supreme Court	•	-	21	20
Total		-	5,229	5,032

MAURITIUS. 1894.

RAILWAYS.

The railways of the Colony are in a flourishing condition, the passenger traffic being conducted with great regularity. No delay in the running of the trains was complained of by the public, and with the exception of the disaster on the 22nd February, when a train was blown off the St. Louis bridge, no accident of any moment occurred during the year.

The revenue and expenditure of the Railway Department

were:-

Revenue Rs. 1,585,720, an increase of Rs. 205,088 over 1893. Expenditure, Rs. 1,010,565, an increase of Rs. 74,864 over 1893.

MILITARY.

The troops in the Colony, including one battalion of the Black Watch, Royal Artillery (European and Indian) (333), Royal Engineers (72), numbered 915 as against 824 in 1893.

The total military expenditure amounted to 51,867l. and the

contribution paid by the Colony was 13,805l. 13s. 9d.

H. KING-HARMAN, Colonial Secretary.

28th August 1895.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 164. NEWFOUNDLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, see No. 135 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. May 1896.



LONDON: PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE, BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE. PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Col	lony.				Year.
129	Sierra Leone -					1893
130	British Bechuanaland	-				1893-4
131	British New Guinea				-	1892-3 &
						1893-4
132	Lagos	-	-	-		1893
133	British Guiana -	-	•			1893-4
134	Jamaica	-		-	-	" "
135	Newfoundland -	•	-	-	-	1893
136	Gold Coast	•	-	-		,,
137	Zululand	•	•	•		1894
138	Bermuda	-			-	"
139	Bahamas	-	•	-	-	,,
140	Barbados	-		-	-	,,
141	Turks and Caicos Islands				-	"
142	Malta	•	•			79
143	Gambia	-		•	-	,,
144	Windward Islands	-	•		-	,,
145	Trinidad and Tobago	-		-		,,
146	Gibraltar -		•	•		"
147	Falkland Islands -	-		•	-	,,
148	Hong Kong -	-	•		-	27
149	Straits Settlements	•			-	"
150	Lagos -	-	-	.0.5		22
151	Seychelles -	-				"
152	Basutoland -	•	-	•	-	1894-5
153	Lagos -	-	-		-	1894
154	St. Helena -	•		•	-	"
155	Ceylon	•	•		-	99
156	Mauritius	-		16 a-16	-	"
157	Labuan	-	•	•	-	,,
158	Gold Coast -	-			-	"
159	British Guaiana -	-	-	18 -		"
160	Sierra Leone -	-		-	100	,,
161	Jamaica	-	-			1894-5
162	British Honduras -	•	•	-		1894
163	British Rechuanaland		-	-	-	1894-5

MISCELLANEOUS.

0.	Colon	у.		Subject.	
1	Gold Coast	•		Economic Agriculture.	
2	Zululand -			Forests.	
2 3	Sierra Leone	75.4		Geology and Botany.	
4	Canada -	-	-	Emigration.	
4 5	Bahamas			Sisal Industry.	

Newfound-LAND. 1894.

No. 164.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

[For Report for 1893, see No. 135.]

Sir H, MURRAY to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, St. Johns, March 2 1896

SIR, March 2, 1896,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for your in

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for your information, the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1894, together with the Report of the Colonial Secretary thereon.

I have, &c.

H. MURRAY.

REPORT ON BLUE BOOK, NEWFOUNDLAND, 1894.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have the honour to forward you herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1894, for transmission to the Right Honourable Secretary of State for the Colonies, I regret that, owing to the great difficulty which is experienced by my Department in obtaining prompt returns from the various public offices in the outports, in consequence of the distance and isolated situation of many of the stations, the issue of this information has been long delayed. Another cause for delay is found in the fact that the work of compiling the Blue Book cannot be commenced until after the close of the House of Assembly in the year succeeding that under consideration (in 1895 this occurred in July), as the information required for its compilation is obtained from the statements laid on the table of the House, and printed late in the session.

GENERAL CONDITION OF COLONY.

Notwithstanding the many circumstances which tended to injuriously affect the general prosperity of the Colony during the year 1894, it cannot be said that that year was an altogether disastrous one. The importations were but little short of those of the preceding year, while our earnings, if we can consider the value of 91910. Wt. 20348.

NEWFOUND-LAND. 1894. of our exports as indicating such, amounted to within half a million dollars of those of 1893. Our fisheries yielded returns, in the case of codfish only slightly under, and in the case of other fish-stuffs, much in advance, of 1893. The reduction in the price obtained for those commodities, which has been steadily decreasing for the last five or six years, was in 1894 of a most serious nature, and, in view of its future effect upon the well-being of a Colony whose fisheries have hitherto supported five-sixths of its population, is a matter of the gravest import. The principal cause is the enormous bounty given to French fishermen, which operates most injuriously to the sale of our fish in Mediterranean markets.

A comparison of the fish exports from Newfoundland to the Mediterranean in the years 1894 and 1888 (the year within the last decade in which the total exportation of fish approximates most nearly that of 1894), and of the prices obtained in these years respectively, will show how rapidly bounty-fed fish is displacing ours in these markets, and how far the over-supply has depreciated the price given. In the year 1888 this Colony exported 365,054 quintals of fish, valued at \$1,413,914, to Mediterranean ports, in 1894 the corresponding figures were 260,006 quintals and \$761,779; the average price per quintal in the former year was \$3.87 in the latter \$2.93, a falling off of over 28 per cent. in the export and of 94c. in the price per quintal. Another cause for the depreciation in the price obtained for our fish is to be found in the continually over-stocked condition of the markets. So far as this Colony is concerned, this was due to the forced shipments caused by the exigencies of trade which demanded the payment for goods purchased for business purposes; exchange was required to meet these acceptances and could not be obtained from the local banks until cover in the shape of bills of lading was placed in their hands, and so, instead of being in a position to hold stocks for a rise in the markets, the merchant found himself obliged to ship regardless of the condition of these markets.

It is beyond doubt that the financial crisis that occurred shortly before the close of the year can to a large extent be ascribed to the condition of things above indicated. The ill-advised trade competition, and, as stated in his Excellency's speech at the opening of the last session of the Legislature, "the eagerness to accumulate wealth by trading on credit" was the other factor that brought about the insolvency of most of our mercantile houses at that Those houses were largely overdrawn in our two local banks and being entirely unable to meet their liabilities their failure occasioned the suspension of those institutions. Excepting the difficulties arising from a lack of a circulating medium and the inability to meet its obligations in consequence of there being no institution through which its business could be conducted, the Government at the time did not suffer to any appreciable extent; the ill effect, so far as it was concerned, would be experienced later, in reduced importation and consequent short revenue. Immediately on the suspension of the Commercial and Union Banks a run commenced on the Government Savings Bank.

although his Excellency the Governor, in the speech above referred NEWFOUND to, declared that the Savings Bank was "not affected by the suspension of the other banks," and that there was "not the slightest danger of loss to the depositors in that institution." complete consciousness of the security of the Bank, the knowledge that its deposits were guaranteed by the Colony, the repeated assurances on the part of the Government that there was not the slightest danger of loss to depositors in that institution-all was of no avail, and the depositors, carried along by the flood of an unaccountable panic, surged at the doors of the Savings Bank in the haste to withdraw their money from an institution which is backed by the whole credit of the Colony.

1894.

To all classes was the suspension of the Commercial and Union Banks a disaster, but especially so, in my estimation, to the operative classes, to the fisherman and artizan whose hoarded savings (those of a lifetime in all likelihood) consisted of notes of the suspended To those people the consequences of the failure were of peculiar misfortune, and the sufferings entailed upon them during the ensuing winter, and to be endured for some considerable time to come, will be such as to call for sincere sympathy and most prompt help.

FINANCIAL.

No loan was raised during the currency of this year. revenue of the Colony on current account amounted to \$1,641.035. Compared with that of 1893, this shows a decrease of \$112,810. the principal items of decrease being Customs' \$127,309, Postal \$8,544, Light Dues \$5,555; the increase being on issue of coin \$31,637 and rent of dry dock \$11,765. The falling off in Customs receipts can rea-onably be ascribed to the unsettled state of political affairs which obtained during the summer and autumn, and to the fact that the Revenue Act had expired for some two months before it was re-enacted. An effort was made to enforce the payment of duties without the sanction of law during that period, but there can be no doubt that in many instances, especially in the outports, advantage was taken of the expiration of the Revenue Act to import goods free of duty.

The total expenditure on current account for 1894 was \$1,930,204, an increase of \$123,104 over that of 1893, the principal items of increase being: Executive Responsibility \$10,316. Customs \$18,359, Inverest on Public Debt \$71,317, Police and Magistracy \$6,676, Postal Department \$14,568, Steam \$17,382, Roads \$7,140. There was a sum of \$306,194 expended under the head of Capital Account. This expenditure, with the exception of that on railway-connecting roads, was really from current account, and it was proposed to reimburse the Treasury to the extent of its advances, by a loan. Outstanding amounts, the accounts for which were not presented until after the close of the year, to the extent of \$13,675.87, were carried on to 1895, and became a charge against the revenue for that year. The overdrafts in 1894 for which there was no legislative authority, and which

Newfound-LAND. 1894. were expenditures upon executive responsibility, amounted to \$283,343.43, and were under the following heads, namely:—

Account.	1894.	Carried into 1895 Account of 1894.	Total.
A Committee of the Comm	\$	\$	· ·
Election expenses	6,247.33	2,568.60	8,815,93
Executive responsibility	21,089.34		21,089.34
Lamaline Court House -	801,11	145	801.11
Mundy Pond Road	6,741.19	_	6,741.19
Municipal Council	18,000.00		18,000.00
Public buildings construction -	2,538.50	_	2,538.50
Quidi Vidi Road	16,441.93	2,018,12	18,460,05
Queen's Wharf	15,447.42		15,447.42
Railway connecting roads -	4,891.55	_	4,891.55
Road Pool's Island to Cape Freels.	1,000.00		1,000.00
Road, Donelly's Hill, Harbor Grace.	700.00		700.00
St. John's Rebuilding Act -	132,244.28	7,031.89	139,276.17
St. John's Fire Committee -	9,288.47		9,288.47
Southside road extension	9,302.50	1,687.26	10,989,76
Roads	9,463.94	_	9,463,94
Public works	15,530.00	370.00	15,900,00
Total	269,667,56	13,675.87	283,343,43

The statement dealing with the assets and liabilities of the Colony shows that the floating balance against the Colony at the close of 1894 amounted to \$1,819,630, including unexpended legislative grants (\$357,762).

The Funded Public Debt at the close of the year stood at \$9,116,535, as against \$8,255,547, having been increased \$860,988,

made up as follows:-

This includes the debt due by the St. John's Municipal Council, raised by the Council, the interest being guaranteed by the Colonial Government. With an estimated population of 208,000, the per capita funded debt at the close of the year would be \$43,83 and the multiple of Revenue 5.55. With the floating debt added we would, at the close of 1894, owe an amount equal to \$52.57 per head of population.

TRADE.

Under the heading "General Condition of Colony," I have dwelt more particularly on the aspect of trade in the Island during the year 1894. I shall therefore confine myself to the following statement having reference to exports and imports.

The total value of imports for 1894 amounted to \$7,164,738, of which \$2,538,942 worth came from Great Britain, \$2,952,046 from British Colonies, and \$1,673,750 from foreign countries; for 1893 the figures were, total imports \$7,572,669, from Great Britain \$2,680,853, from British Colonies \$3,127,954, and from

foreign countries \$1,763,762.

The value of exports for 1894 was, to Great Britain \$1,347,425, to British Colonies \$1,366,684, to foreign countries \$3,097,060, total \$5,811,169. Compared with the returns for 1893 this shows an increased value of exports to Great Britain amounting to \$43,775, and to the British Colonies amounting to \$196,752, and a decreased value to foreign countries of \$705,270, the net decrease on the total exports being \$469,743.

SHIPPING.

The following comparative statement shows the number of vessels entered and cleared from ports in the Colony for the years 1893 and 1894, viz:-

Year,	Vessels.	Tonnage.	British.	Tonnage. 816,494
1893		852,308	2,622	
1894	2,427	835,987	2,621	876,703

It will be observed from the foregoing that, while British shipping entered and cleared has increased, the falling-off to be noted in connexion with the total number of vessels and their tonnage is due to a reduction in the number of foreign vessels employed in the carrying trade of the Colony.

LEGISLATION.

Owing to the peculiar circumstances under which the Legislature sat in 1894, very little was done in the way of legislation other than that absolutely required to carry on the government of the Colony, viz :- the usual Revenue, Road, Supply, Indemnity, and Contingencies Acts. A Loan Act was passed but was not acted upon. In addition to these the following were passed:

Cap. I. (First Session) Abolished the practice of engrossing

public documents on parchment.

Cap. III. Amends the original Act authorising the loan of \$100,000 for the construction of branch lines of road to connect with the railway.

Cap. IV. Provides for the exchange of debentures for deben-

tures lost or destroyed.

Cap. VI. Appoints Commissioners for Quidi Vidi Park.

Cap. VII. Provides that operators on telegraph lines shall be sworn to secrecy.

NEWFOUND-LAND. 1894.

EDUCATION.

Newfound-LAND. 1894.

There is nothing of special importance to report upon under this head. 605 schools were in operation, including colleges and higher schools, with a roll attendance of 35,501; in 1893 the figures were, respectively, 576 and 34,337.

The total expenditure, including legislative grants, fees, and

voluntary contributions, amounted to \$147,544.

FISHERIES.

This subject has been more particularly referred to under the head of "General Condition of the Colony." I shall therefore confine myself to a few statements showing the results of the several branches of this industry for the years 1893-94.

Seal Fishery.

_		1893.	1894.
Number of skins	-	175,478	284,460
Tuns of oil	-	2,932	4,063
Value of skins -	-	\$ 116,704	\$ 227,568
Value of oil -	-	205,240	276,284
Total		321,944	503,852

The result shows an increase in the value of the products of this fishery exported of \$181,908.

Cod Fishery.

Including exports from Labrador-

1893.

Dried, qtls. 1,160,335, value Other Cod oil, tuns 3,003 -		- 4,328,499 - 27,167 - 216,384
	Total	- 4,572,050
1894.		
Dried, qtls. 1,107,696, value		- 3,703,338
Other		- 21,594
Cod oil, tuns 3,783	- 1	- 264,810
	Total	- 3,989,742

9

COLONIAL REPORTS. -ANNUAL.

A serious decrease in the value of our chief industry is here indicated, due entirely, as I have remarked elsewhere, to the reduction in the price obtained for our fish in foreign markets,

NEWFOUND . 1894.

501

Herring Fishery.

1894.

				Barrels.	Value.
Dialata a				70 976	\$
Pickled		•	-	78,376	197,551
Frozen	•	-	-	56,907	56,907
	7	Cotal		135,283	254,458

1893.

			Barrels.	Value.
D'-1-1-4			60.999	\$
Pickled		-	60,332	181,094
Frozen			46,883	46,883
	Total	-	107,215	227,977

An increase of 28,068 barrels, valued at \$26,481, over 1893.

Salmon Fishery.

1893.—3,499 tierces, value \$55,984. 1894.—3,216 tierces, value \$51,483. A slight decrease.

Lobster Fishery.

1893.—Preserved, 1,699,344 lbs., value \$265,522. 1894.—Preserved, 2,306,688 lbs., value \$312, 364.

The catch of lobsters in 1894 was much in excess of that of 1893, but the smaller price obtained for this commodity nearly neutralized the benefits which it was thought would be realised from the increased catch.

The other fishing industries of the Colony are too unimportant to call for comment.

The total value of fishery products was in 1894, \$5,141,221, as against \$5,466,911 in 1893; to this may be added the sum of \$750,000 for home consumption, giving a total yield for 1894 of about \$5,900,000.

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NE WFOUND-LAND. 1894.

LUMBERING.

It affords me much gratification to again report most favourably upon this branch of our industries. Its expansion has been most rapid, as the following comparative statement will show.

Year.	M feet.	Valued at
	The State of	\$
1888	30	360
1889	5	50
1890	1,329 ·	21,180
1891	1,431	28,620
1892	2,355	47,100
1893	3,073	45,986
1894	6,357	82,641

The above gives the amount exported, but in addition to this a very large quantity is annually used for home consumption.

In this connexion I would observe that the amount of timber which has been destroyed by forest fires in this Colony is exceedingly large, and can only be appreciated by those who have travelled much in the interior. Forest fires are no doubt due occasionally to lightning, but most of them are traceable to the carelessness of hunters and travellers. In the partially inhabited regions, fires originate by the settlers burning brush and logheaps in clearing the land. The question has arisen as to whether anything can be done to prevent this destruction of the timber of the country. There is a law upon the Statute Book which deals with the subject, but no adequate means have heretofore been provided for enforcing it. It is considered that the appointment of conservators or forest guardians whose duties, in addition to preventing the destruction of the timber by fire and otherwise, might be directed to promoting the growth of existing timber, checking the stumpage upon granted areas and preventing encroachments upon ungranted Crown lands, will undoubtedly repay the cost that will be entailed. These officers will have the power to arrest or lay information against persons suspected or known to have wilfully, or by their negligence, set fire to the woods. matters now stand, many guilty persons are allowed to escape through the reluctance or fear which disinterested or private individuals may have in regard to informing against them.

MINING.

The principal ores exported during the year were copper, viz.: Ingots, regulus and green ore, and iron pyrites. Of the former there were 28,842 tons, valued at \$236,235, and of the latter 40,582 tons, valued at \$285,474. The total value of our exports under this head was \$116,420 less than in the year previous. This may be accounted for by the low price of copper in the English markets.

The indications of copper are quite numerous in the section north of Bonavista Bay, namely, Notre Dame Bay and White Bay. The most important of these, from a commercial standpoint, are the celebrated mines at Tilt Cove, Little Bay, and Betts Cove, which were worked extensively some ten or fifteen years ago, but two of which have been idle for several years. Lately the Tilt Cove property has changed hands and the Company have begun a thorough exploration of the mine; old levels are being extended and new ones driven. The exports of copper during the year were exclusively from this mine. The export of asbestos has so far been insignificant, but the work of developing those deposits is steadily progressing and with most encouraging results.

NEWFOUND-LAND. 1894.

His Excellency
Sir Herbert H. Murray, K.C.B.,

R. Bond, Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 154.

ST. HELENA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

For Report for 1893, see Colonial Report [Annual] No. 125.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony	7.				Year.
119	Rodrigues		44.5			1893
120	Mauritius			-		"
121	Straits Settlements-		12-		-	"
122	Labuan	-	- 14		-	99
123	Basutoland	-	-			1893-94
124	St. Lucia	-	-			1893
125	St. Helena-			-	-	"
126	Ceylon	•			-	,,
127	Fiji					"
128	Grenada			•		99
129	Sierra Leone -	-			-	"
130	British Bechuanaland	-	-		-	1893-94
131	British New Guinea	•				1892-3 &
					1	1893-4.
132	Lagos			-		1893
133	British Guiana -	-		- 11	•	1893-4
134	Jamaica	-	10	-	7	,,,
135	Newfoundland -	-		-		1893
136	Gold Coast -				Bry -	,,
137	Zululand - •	•	•	-	-	1894
138	Bermuda	•				,,
139	Bahamas				-	"
140	Barbados	•			•	,,
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	•	-	-	4	,,
142	Malta	-			-	39
143	Gambia	-		•	•	,,
144	Windward Islands -	•		-	-	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	•	•		•	99
146	Gibraltar	•	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	•		,,,
147	Falkland Islands -	•				,,
148	Hong Kong -					27
149	· Straits Settlements	•	•	-	-	"
150	Lagos	-			-	,,
151	Seychelles -		-		-	,,
152	Basutoland -	-			-	1894-5
153	Fiji	-			-	1894

MISCELLANEOUS.

).	* Colo	ay.	 Subject.
2 3	Gold Coast Zululand Sierra Leone Canada		 Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany. Emigration.

No. 154.

ST. HELENA.

St. Helena. 1894.

[For Report for 1893 see Colonial Report (Annual) No. 125.]

Governor GREY WILSON to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Castle, St. Helena, Sir, August 13, 1895.

THE 1894 Blue Book of this little Colony of 4,000 souls, which I herewith transmit, exhibits such hopeful indications as to relieve me from the charge of over-confidence if I express the opinion that the low-water mark of the Island has been passed.

The decline of the prosperity of the Island was coincident with the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869, and to that event nearly all our misfortunes have been attributed. That steam largely replaced sails, and that the canal diverted a large proportion of the Eastern traffic from this route, cannot be denied. A closer investigation of the history of modern merchant shipping, however, reveals the fact that, at the same time, increased competition so greatly reduced the profits of owners as to render necessary the utmost vigilance in curtailing expenditure.

Small ships, being much more costly in personnel than large ones, gave place to vessels of ever-increasing size. Preserved provisions improved in quality and were shipped in larger quantities at the cheaper European ports of departure. Water storage was extended and improved, and the two or three days' holiday which nearly every captain coming from the eastward took in St. Helena was, in the hurry and rush, crushed out of the voyage altogether, or reduced to a stay of as many hours. Vessels are now in every way better found than formerly, and the ship chandler's bill that in the good old times raised no comment would in these days have serious consequences for the captain. The opening of the Suez Canal looms large and clear, but these facts must not be lost sight of.

The garrison of the Island consisted in 1869 of 448 men, and in 1870 it was reduced to 178; and this fact, I confidently assert, was the direct and immediate cause of our misfortunes.

The chequered history of this Island, from its zenith in Napoleonic times to its very severe depression of modern times, is not that of a natural rise and fall, but should rather be regarded as he inevitable relapse from fictitious inflation.

It is true that since the days when the East India Company's extravagant aid was withdrawn the Island has continued to decline;

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St. Helena. 1894. but it must be remembered that, when that change took place, very nearly the whole of the landed proprietors and upper classes, who were famed for their lavish hospitality, found themselves either involved in, or on the verge of, bankruptcy, and, being the product of what I have previously termed fictitious inflation, they were not likely to possess either the energy or the resource necessary to combat the changed condition of affairs. They certainly made no attempt to do so, and spent their time in extolling the past and feasting their memories upon the grand times that were gone.

Many of this class have only passed away in recent times, and they have, I doubt not, in a measure contributed to check the natural growth of enterprise which elsewhere characterises British colonists.

The position of St. Helena assures to her, however, in my opinion, prosperity in the future, as a coaling station, as a dockyard, and as a link in an ocean cable.

Beyond a few tons of guano, the Island until 1892 exported nothing, it being quite as, if not more, difficult for a sailing ship from the north to reach St. Helena as the Cape. It follows that the freight on coal sent by sailing ship to this place must necessarily be higher than to the Cape; but so soon as steam colliers replace sailing ones the freight to St. Helena will be 1,700 miles cheaper than to the Cape, and, as land suitable for the storage of coal can be acquired here at a very much lower rate than at the Cape, it should be possible for us to supply coal at a much lower price than they can possibly do. I wish it could be more generally known that St. Helena is an entirely free port save to vessels who land or ship cargo.

That the rocky bay adjoining Jamestown is admirably suitable for the construction of docks, experts have attested. The ground would cost nothing. The climate is in every way suited to European mechanics. The growing steam traffic to and vid the Cape, and the requirements of Her Majesty's service on the West Coast of Africa, render it, to my mind, certain that the construction of docks in St. Helena must be undertaken.

The construction of docks will, however, occupy time, and it seems probable that before their completion St. Helena will form one link in an ocean cable. The large number of vessels passing here, bound for the Azores for orders, since the Portuguese laid a cable to those islands, is sufficient indication of the importance this Island would assume if connected by cable with England. Men-of-war from the West Coast, which now entirely lose touch with the Commander-in-Chief while at St. Helena, could remain here to recruit, until wanted. Commander Hewetson in his report says, "Nothing could more strikingly illustrate the want of a cable than the recent departure of H.M.S. 'Phœbe' for Sierra Leone (1,700 miles) in order to telegraph to the Commander-in-Chief at the Cape, the captain at the time being most anxious to remain at the Island and avoid the West "Coast owing to the large amount of sickness among his crew."

ST. HELENA.

1894.

Five hundred and three vessels were sighted during the year (1893—516), and of these 195 called (1893—199) and 221 traded with licensed boatmen without calling (1893—193); and, although the number of vessels calling was four less than in the previous year, their tonnage rose from 273,344 to 280,634 tons. 12 vessels of war and transports called (1893—14).

The American whaling fleet shows a marked decline, and, as it is largely manned by Islanders, though not, I regret to say, owned by them, our loss has been considerable. The low price of oil and the general mercantile depression account in a great

measure for this falling off.

If, however, commercial depression has adversely affected that portion of our population who are dependent upon the sea, it has been propitious for a still larger class. The unprecedentedly low rates obtaining in the wholesale markets of the world have reduced retail prices, still in most instances very high, to a figure never hitherto approached, and, as we are consumers only, the gain to all classes has been immense, while the consequent increased importation has very favourably affected our Customs revenue, which is levied upon the bulk, and not upon the value.

Revenue and Expenditure.

No changes were made in the duties or taxes.

The revenue and expenditure for 1894 were—

	Reve	enue.		*		Exper	iditure.		
Customs			+	£ 4,688	Administrati	on			£ 5,224
Taxes -				652	Pensions			-	1,769
Rents -		-	-	794	Hospital			-	881
Other sources			-	3,028	Total			-	7,874
					Surplus	-	-	-	1,288
Total			-	9,162	Total	-		-	9,162

Stamps to the value of 1,904l. sold and repurchased have been struck out of both sides of the above account.

For the three years ending 1891 we had recurring deficits, but for the last three years we have had a surplus, and our assets are now 18,066l and our liabilities 16,232l.

Legislation.

Three Ordinances were enacted during the year -

No. 1.—Relating to game and wild birds.

N . 2.—Relating to the harbour.

No. 3.—Supply.

St. Helena. 1894. The Game Law has been framed in the interest of sportsmen and for the protection of wild birds. The Island partridge is probably the "chukar" of northern India, and the ring-necked pheasant is from the same locality. Though it is not known when they were introduced, Cavendish speaks, in 1588, of there being on the island "a great store of partridges and likewise no less "plenty of pheasants, very big and fat."

Shooting commences on March 1st for partridges, and on April 15th for pheasants, and terminates on May 31st; rabbits may be shot at any time, but only by the holders of licences during the game season. The cost of a game licence is 3l. for the whole

season, and 11. for visitors for seven days.

The Game Law also protects all wild birds, but permits averdevats, canaries, cardinals, and Java sparrows to be taken or killed by licensed persons during four months of the year.

I found it necessary to extend to the indigenous "wire bird" of St. Helena (Ægialitis Sanctæ Helenæ) absolute protection, and to the sea birds (of which at least eight are indigenous) additional protection; and this has been done by the Ordinance.

The wire bird differs very materially from the small plover, which is generally distributed throughout the continent of Africa, and which has never been seen here.

In connection with game, I may mention that during 1894 five wild ducks came to St. Helena and remained seven or eight days. This is a somewhat remarkable circumstance, seeing that the nearest mainland is 1,200 miles distant.

The Harbour Ordinance confers upon the harbour master, a retired naval officer, additional powers to allocate berths to ships, and control the boats and boatmen, and generally to facilitate and improve the work of the port.

Pensions.

The pension list still occupies a disproportionate position in our balance sheet.

Of the total expenditure of 7,874l., no less a sum than 1,769l, fell under that item.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports was 31,777l., nearly 7,500l. less than in the previous year; but the low wholesale rates obtaining during the year, to which I have already alluded, fully accounts for this nominal decline.

The value of the exports, excluding specie, was 1,177., and in addition to this, whalebone and oil to the value of 14,717l. was transhipped in the harbour.

511

An interesting item, that of potatoes, first appears in our Export St. Helena. returns in 1892. The exports during the last three years have legal.

	Yea	ar.		Bags.	Value.	
1892				570	£ 355	
1893			-	320	207	
1894		34.10		1,160	772	

Greater attention has been paid in recent years to the importation of reliable seed, and it has been found that the Cape will relieve us in large quantities of really good potatoes, such as are now produced.

It is satisfactory to note that the importation of wine, spirits,

and beer declined during the year.

The figures are:

	Y	ear.		Wine.	Spirits.	Bee	er.
1891			-	Gallons. 6,088	Gallons. 1,489	Hogsheads.	Dozens.
1892			-	6,387	1,688	301	273
1893		- 0	-	7,318	2,068	366	1,603
1894	1		out T	7,187	1,931	173	232

The consumption per head shows a considerable decline:-

	miatr.				1890.	1894.
Beer -		4.9		-	25 bottles	12°2 bottles
Spirits -				-	2.6 "	2.9 "
Wines -	-		10 -	-	12' "	10 "
Tobacco				-	1.75 lbs.	1.77 lbs.
Sugar -				-	67 ,,	106.3 ,,

Population and Vital Statistics.

The health of the Island was very satisfactory with the exception of infantine mortality, which was high. The death-rate of 18.8 per 1,000 is so ordinary as to invite no comment; but an examination of the figures yields a result sufficiently remarkable to justify my submitting some details, which demonstrate the extent to which our able-bodied ranks have been depleted by

St. Helena. emigration, while they bring out in extraordinary relief the 1894. remarkable healthiness of the Island.

The death-rate of those under 10 years was 43.6 per 1,000. The death-rate of those over 10 and under 70 years was 6.3 per 1,000.

The death-rate of those over 70 years was 126.6 per 1,000.

Hospital.

The hospital was entirely re-organised during the year, under the able supervision of Miss Rose A. Blennerhassett, of Mashonaland fame. Skilled nursing was previously unknown, and, as the Island occupies the position of an ocean hospital for passing ships and many cases are landed in a deplorable condition, this improvement has had marked results, not one sailor having died in hospital during the year. 113 cases, of whom 41 were sailors, were treated, and only three deaths occurred. The average number of deaths during the previous 10 years has been 9.6, and the lowest seven.

Tristan d'Acunha.

In April I visited Tristan d'Acunha in the flagship "Raleigh." This little island lies about 1,500 miles almost due south of St. Helena and about the same distance west of the Cape of Good Hope.

I found the 61 inhabitants, consisting of 18 males, 23 females, and 20 children, under the nominal control of the aged Peter W. Green, in excellent health and desiring the help of the chaplain

rather than of the doctor of the ship.

The climate is an admirable one, and the general condition of the inhabitants leaves little to be desired from a material point of view. For many years the Rev. Edwin H. Dodgson lived and laboured there, apparently quite content with the frugal fare, and even reconciled to only one annual mail, brought by a man-of-war. Mr. Dodgson went to England in 1892, and the closing of the school which he conducted is much deplored.

The live stock consists of 600 cattle, 500 sheep, a few pigs and

donkeys, some poultry, and a large number of geese.

The potato crop is largely relied upon, and those we procured were of good quality. The settlement consists of stone-built cottages scattered over a common, lying at the foot of the precipitous and lofty mountain, and their whole style of life reminds one of the crofters.

The inhabitants are total abstainers, not perhaps from choice so much as from necessity, and they certainly form a strong

argument in favour of teetotalism.

Occasional expeditions are made in open boats to Inaccessible Island, 20 miles distant, for seals, which they rely on for their lights.

The albatross, which formerly abounded in Tristan d'Acunha and furnished large quantities of eggs, has now quite disappeared, owing to the wild cats, which are very numerous, and which it

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

may now be hoped will devote themselves to reduce the plague of St. Helena. 1894.

Savings Bank.

The number of depositors in the bank has more than doubled during the past 10 years (72 to 145), and the deposits have more than trebled (4,000*l*. to 13,000*l*.). The bulk of the working classes, however, prefer to invest their savings in one or other of the numerous Friendly Societies.

Education.

The improved financial condition has enabled us to provide assistant teachers for all the Government schools, a much needed and long deferred reform.

Military Expenditure.

The cost of the garrison, which consists of engineers, artillery, and infantry, was borne entirely by the Imperial Government.

Meteorology.

I transmit a report, by Mr. H. S. Hands, of the meteorological observations of the year, which show a marked improvement upon the records of the previous year. The initial difficulties experienced with the anemograph have been overcome, and the records are now continuous and (I think) reliable.

The greatest wind pressure during the year was 11.5 lbs.; but this only continued for one hour. 97.5 per cent. of the year was windy and 2.5 per cent. calm. The maximum heat recorded in the country was 82 and the minimum 48.

The rainfall was:—

Centre of Island, 39 inches.

East ,, 24 ,, West ,, 33 ,,

West ,, 33 ,, These figures confirm previous observations and demonstrate the remarkable variation of the rainfall in a range of only seven miles.

Conclusion.

The Island has been entirely free from serious crimes. The condition of the people has improved, and, if remunerative employment can be found for the large number of unemployed women and children, we shall have solved one very great difficulty. The establishment of a fish-curing factory is now being promoted as a purely commercial operation, and in that form it presents very much greater prospects of a satisfactory solution than as a philanthropic undertaking. The great abundance of excellent fish, and the absolute security of the fishing fleet which the absence of all atmospherical disturbances here affords, should greatly conduce to its success.

I have, &c.

W. GREY WILSON.

St. Helena. 1894.

METEOROLOGY, 1894.

Rainfall.

The record of rainfall compares very favourably with the previous year, the totals being:—

	1893.	1894.
St. Matthew's Vicarage (Central), altitude 1,900 feet approx.	Inches. 40:344	Inches. 39.078
Longwood (East), altitude 1,780 feet	28.070	24.600
Woodlands (West), altitude 2,050 feet	31.770	32.960

The greatest amount fell, as has been the case since the record was begun there in 1892, at the first station, and the greatest daily record, 1.65 inches, was recorded at Woodlands on the 31st May

A marked difference of 63 per cent. occurs between the first and second stations, but this may be accounted for by their situation. The former is nearly surrounded by hills and in closer proximity to the highest peak, whereas the latter lies on a nearly level plateau.

Barometer.

The greatest atmospherical pressure, 28.264 inches, occurred on the 26th June, and the least, 28.020 inches, on the 2nd March; so that the absolute range of the barometer during the year was only 0.244 inches.

Temperature.

The mean absolute maximum temperature recorded during the three years' observation at St. Matthew's Vicarage was 77.2, and the mean absolute minimum 50.7; showing the extreme range in that period to be, on the average, 25°. The difference between the hottest and coldest months was 9° which may be taken as the difference in temperature between the town and country.

The absolute maximum registered in 1894 was 82°, and the absolute minimum 48°, in February and August respectively at Woodlands.

Wind.

Much more satisfactory results were obtained than in the previous year from the anemometer erected at St. Matthew's Vicarage in the beginning of 1892.

The mean monthly record was 18 miles an hour, corresponding to a pressure of 1.6 lbs. on the square foot. The force of 50 miles, or a pressure of 11.5 lbs. on the square foot, was registered for one hour only on the 25th September, and is the highest recorded since observations have been taken. The lowest recorded was eight miles an hour, or a pressure of five ounces on the square foot.

The average number of days the wind blew from the southeast was 55 per cent.; from the south-south-east, 27 per cent., from the east-south-east, 11 per cent.; and from variable quarters, 4.5; with 2.5 of calm days.

H. S. HANDS.

St. Helena. 1894.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 151.

SEYCHELLES.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



LONDON:

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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colo	ny.				Year.
119	Rodrigues				0.	1893
120	Mauritius				•	,,
121	Straits Settlements	-			-	"
122	Labuan	-		-	-	
123	Basutoland -	-		-	-	1893-4
124	St. Lucia -	-		-	-	1893
125	St. Helena -	-		•	-	"
126	Ceylon		-		= +-	99
127	Fiji	-177		-		"
128	Grenada	£ 2.50			- U	25
129	Sierra Leone -	-				"
130	British Bechuanaland	-		-	-	1893-4
131	British New Guinea	-				1892-3&
						1893-4
132	Lagos	-	•		-	1893
133	British Guiana -	-	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	-		1893-4
134	Jamaica	-			-	99
135	Newfoundland -	· here			-	1893
136	Gold Coast -	•	•			99
137	Zululand	-	•			1894
138	Bermuda	-	-		-	,,
139	Bahamas	-	•	-	-	99
140	Barbados	-	•			"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	-	-	-		"
142	Malta	-		-	-	,,
143	Gambia	-		-	-	"
144	Windward Islands -	•				22
145	Trinidad and Tobago		•	-	-	"
146	Gibraltar	•	-	-	-	"
147	Falkland Islands -	-				"
148	Hong Kong -			•		"
149	Straits Settlements			-	-	"
150	Lagos					1894

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colon	y •		Subject.
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -	-	-	Forests.
2 3	Sierra Leone	-		Geology and Botany. Emigration.
4	Canada -	-		Emigration.

No. 151.

SEYCHELLES.

SEYCHELLES. 1894.

Administrator STEWART to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Seychelles, September 12, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to forward my report on the Blue Book Returns for 1894, which I find were transmitted to Mauritius in March last.

2. As I only assumed the government of the Dependency in July last, I am unable to do more than to review briefly the statistical and other returns which have been forwarded, as not only can I not speak of the past year with any personal knowledge but I also find that no Blue Book Reports have been forwarded since 1890.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

3. The Revenue of 1894 amounted to Rs. 235,411 as against Rs. 232,055 in 1893. The expenditure was Rs. 278,470, as against an expenditure of Rs. 226,226 in 1893. There was, consequently, an excess of expenditure over revenue of Rs. 43,459. This excess, which has been regularized by special votes, was mainly owing to the purchase by Government of the premises of the late New Oriental Bank Company.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

The exports amounted to Rs. 764,080 and the imports to Rs. 604,033. The exports consist mainly of vanilla, cacao and cocoanut oil. There has been a failure of the vanilla crop for two years, but a large crop will be made this year.

The cacao plantations are devastated by rats, our steps are

being taken to combat this plague.

SIR,

Liberian coffee is now extensively grown in Seychelles and will ere long form one of the principal exports of the Colony. At present the quantity grown only suffices for local consumption. The flavour is delicious and compares favourably with the best Moka coffee. The fruit trade has not as yet been developed at all, but I hope next year to see the beginning of a large export trade in oranges, lemons and bananas. We have three markets for fruit, Mauritius, Reunion, and Aden, and I trust that a considerable revenue will be the result of the efforts which I am making to encourage this industry.

o 88980. Wt. 20348.

SEYCHELLES. 1894.

PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of any importance were carried out during the year, the public finances not allowing of any such expenditure: the upkeep of roads and of public buildings is almost all that can

be managed.

The existing roads are all in a deplorable state of disrepair. Of the principal road leading to the south of the Island parts are quite impassable and have evidently never been made at all. Whenever a difficulty presented itself to the engineer in charge of the work he apparently left it and went on with a further section of the road, so that beyond the first four miles from town the road is a thing of "shreds and patches" quite unfit for carriage or cart traffic, and presenting serious obstacles even to pedestrians. In Praslin and La Digue there are no roads at all.

POPULATION.

The estimated population is 17,625.

The births were 636, against 618 in 1893.

The still-births were at the rate of 2.66 per 1,000.

There were 141 marriages, and the death-rate was 14:80 per

1,000.

This low death-rate speaks volumes for the healthiness of these islands, indeed it would not be possible to find a more healthy spot than Seychelles. I regret it is not known to the English public as a health resort. Persons suffering from consumption, throat and chest diseases would find a delightful climate in Seychelles, without any of the sudden changes of temperature incidental to the Riviera.

EDUCATION.

In 1894 there were grant-in-aid schools attended by 2,102 children, against 27 in 1893 attended by 1,968.

There was one Government undenominational school with 72

pupils.

Twenty schools, with 1,688 pupils, were under the control of the Roman Catholic Mission, and eight, with 416 pupils, under that of the Church of England Missionary Society.

The sums voted for education in 1894 were:-

			Rs.
Grants to grant-in-aid schools -	•		- 8,000
Government undenominational school	-		- 3,864
Grants to affiliated classes -	-		- 700
The grant-in-aid was apportioned as followed	ows:-	_	
			Rs. c.
Roman Catholic schools			6,260.02
Church of England schools			1.739.98

JUDICIAL.

SEYCHELLES. 1894.

5

There were 675 criminal informations lodged in 1894, and 675 cases adjudicated upon.

There were 692 convictions, 654 on police prosecution and 38 on prosecution by parties, the most numerous cases being for drunkenness and disturbance.

I cannot help thinking that the First Offenders Act could be advantageously applied to Seychelles: it would, I am sure, have a beneficial effect in reducing the prison population.

The number of cases on the civil side were 206, in addition to which 78 matters were dealt with in Chambers and 45 cases in the

Stipendiary Court.

Four hundred and eighteen persons were committed to prison; of these five were sentenced to five years or more, and 13 to one year or more, the remainder to less than one year.

POLICE.

The police force of the Dependency consists of:-

1 Chief Officer of Police.

1 Sergeant-Major.

2 Sergeants.

3 Corporals, and 44 men.

HOSPITAL.

The number of persons treated in the public hospital in 1894 was 186, against 237 in 1893, as follows:—

					1893.	1894.
Paupers -			-		80	69
Prisoners -		-			43	31
Police, Public Treasury Dep	Works,	Prison,	Port	and	57	42
Paying patients	•			-	57	44
T	otal -			-	237	186

Of these 186 persons—

115 were discharged as cured.

38 " " relieved.

13 " " unrelieved.

15 died.

5 remaining in hospital at the end of the year.

SEYCHELLES. 1894. Of the 13 unrelieved, seven left the hospital at their own request, two were sent to the Mauritius Lunatic Asylum, and four were removed to Curieuse Pauper Asylum.

The principal diseases were anæmia, dysentery, gastritis, rheumatism, syphilis, and ulcers.

There were in 1894 348 children vaccinated at the Public Hospital, and 16 at the outlying stations, in all 364.

DISPENSARY.

The number of persons who have applied for medicines at the Public Dispensary of Mahé was 8,085, against 8,457 in 1893.

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1894:—

- 1. "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 9 of 1893."
- 2. "An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Seychelles Islands for the year 1894."
- 3. "An Ordinance to amend Regulation 1 of 1889,"
- 4. " Counterfeit Stamp Prohibition Ordinance."
- 5. "An Ordinance to provide for the creation of Slaughter Houses in the Seychelles Islands."
- 6. "An Ordinance to provide for the repression of disorderly conduct in Lodging Houses."
- 7. "An Ordinance to repeal Sec. 3 of Regulation 5 of 1880 of the Seychelles Board of Civil Commissioners and to enact other provisions in lieu thereof."

ECCLESIASTICAL.

According to the last Census returns (1891), there were 2,636 Protestants and 12,608 Roman Catholics in these islands.

The following is the list of the clergy in Seychelles.

Church of England.

Civil Chaplain		198 <u>1</u> 890		1
Minister for South Mahé				1
Minister for Praslin -	150 - 100 P			1
Evangelists and Catechists		o to the state of		10
			_	_
				13

Church of Rome.

Bishop			-		-		-	_	1
Priests		-			-	-	-	-	11
Lay Breth	ren of	the	Capu	icin (Order				2
Marists Br	others	8	-	-	-			-	7
Sisters of S	St. Jo	seph		-			-		54

SEYCHELLES. 1894.

TELEGRAPH.

Since the last Blue Book Report was forwarded (1890), Seychelles has been connected by telegraph with the outer world, the Eastern and South African Telegraph Company having laid a cable between Zanzibar and Mauritius, touching at Seychelles. The rates are 5 Rs. 14 annas per word to England.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The year under review has been marked by the almost total failure of the vanilla crop and, as this is the second most remunerative product of the Seychelles Archipelago, the consequences have been strongly felt. I am glad to say that there is every promise of a good crop this year. Seychelles has, in common with other eastern colonies, suffered muck from the continued depreciation of the rupee and not only has the trade of the country been affected thereby but the large loss on exchange on all Government transactions has been a fruitful source of difficulty to this Government.

H. COCKBURN STEWART,
Administrator.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 160.

SIERRA LEONE.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, see No. 129 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



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1896.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Cold	ony.				Year.
128	Grenada	. 4				1893
129	Sierra Leone -	-				99
130	British Bechuanaland	-		4.7	-	1893-4
131	British New Guinea	•	•		•	1892-3&
						1893-4
132	Lagos	-				1893
133	British Guiana -	-	•			1893-4
134	Jamaica	•		•	-	"
135	Newfoundland -	-	•	•	-	1893
136	Gold Coast -	•	•	•	-	"
137	Zululand	-		•	-	1894
138	Bermuda		•			"
139	Bahamas	•				"
140	Barbados	-	•	-		99
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	•			-	99
142	Malta	•		•	-	22
143	Gambia	•	•	•	•	"
144	Windward Islands -		de Tax			29
145	Trinidad and Tobago	•			-	, ,,
146	Gibraltar	•			•	"
147	Falkland Islands +		•		•	"
148	Hong Kong -	•	•		•	99
149	Straits Settlements -	•			•	"
150	Lagos		•			"
151	Seychelles		1		•	1894-5
152	Basutoland			S. VIII		1894
153	Fiji		Sign of		•	1094
154	St. Helena -					"
155	Ceylon					"
156	Mauritius				-	"
157	Labuan					"
158	Gold Coast					"
159	British Guiana -	-		•	-	99

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony	7.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast		Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -		Forests.
2 3	Sierra Leone	-	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	-	Emigration.

No. 160.

SIERRA LEONE.

(For Report for 1893, see No. 129.)

SIERRA LEONE. 1894.

The ACTING GOVERNOR to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Freetown, Sierra Leone,

SIR, October 18, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Blue Book of the Colony of Sierra Leone for the year 1894, which has been prepared by Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. Gore, Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c. J. E. CAULFEILD.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK, 1894.

(1.)—Taxes and Duties.

There is no change under this head.

(2.)—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The total Revenue for the year was 98,838l., showing an

increase of 6,069l. over that for 1893.

There was an increase on the estimated Revenue of 1,588l., due chiefly to the higher duty on spirits, it being 3s. per proof gallon instead of 2s. This came into force on the 1st March 1893, by the provisions of the Customs Duties Amendment Ordinance, 1893.

It may not be out of place here to remark on the interior

quality of the spirit imported into the Cclony.

Gin in cases, especially the kind imported for sale to the Natives of the interior, has frequently been used by painters as driers in lieu of turpentine. The effect of such spirit on consumers, who are also the collectors and growers of our produce

o 89400. Wt. 20348.

SIERRA LEONE. 1894. for export, must be terrible. The strength of the spirit thus imported in demijohns and cases averages 55 per cent. under proof, and the quality may be more easily imagined than described.

The quantity of gin of between 18 and 20 per cent. under proof imported is very small, as its consumption is confined to the

well-to-do-class of the community.

The total quantity of trade gin and rum imported during 1894 was 242,686 proof gallons, valued at 25,266l., whereas in 1893 the total quantity was 222,678 proof gallons, valued at 22,110l., being an increase on last year of 20,008 gallons, and 3,156l. in value.

There is no export duty, nor is there direct taxation at present.

Expenditure.

The estimated expenditure was 97,121*l.*, and the amount actually expended 93,099*l.*, showing a saving on the estimates of 4,022*l.*

(3.)—Assets and Liabilities.

The assets on 31st December 1894 exceeded the liabilities by 38,618l.

(4.)—PUBLIC DEBT.

This remains the same, viz :-

50,000l. raised in 1871-73 for constructing public works, to be repaid in 1896-98.

The sinking fund for its redemption amounted to 42,791l. on

31st December 1894.

(5.) - MUNICIPALITY.

An Ordinance, amending "An Ordinance to create the town of Freetown a municipal city and to incorporate the inhabitants thereof," which passed the Council on 21st February 1893, was passed this year entitled "The Freetown Municipality Amendment Ordinance, 1894."

The Council is to consist of a mayor and 15 councillors, three of whom are to be appointed by the Governor and Executive

Council, the others being elected.

Freetown contains over 30,000 inhabitants.

(6.)—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

There is no contribution from the Colony, which is now an important coaling station. The local expenditure for the military establishment in 1894 was 57,852l., being 16,083l. over that for the previous year.

The garrison consists of a battalion of the West India Regiment, a European detachment of the Royal Artillery, a native battery of West African Artillery, and a native detachment of fortress engineers.

LEONE. 1894.

SIERRA

The troops receive an allowance, which amounted during the year to 1,151*l*., as compensation for Customs duties payable by them.

There is no militia.

(7.)—THE SIERRA LEONE FRONTIER POLICE.

This consists of five companies, with a total strength of one inspector-general, five inspectors, one adjutant, five native sub-inspectors, a native paymaster, and 550 sub-officers and privates.

The men do not come from any one tribe or special part of the country, but every tribe, from north to south, and every language, has its representative, a fact of great value, as there are so many different languages spoken within, and close to, the Colony.

The uniform of blue serge, consisting of a light jumper, short knickerbockers, a red cummerbund and red fez, is very serviceable and inexpensive, and is all that is necessary for the nature of the work required to be performed.

The Sierra Leone civil police, maintained for town work, consist of one superintendent, one inspector, one sub-inspector (a native) and 242 sergeants and constables.

(8.)—Public Works.

The expenditure on public works, repairs to buildings, roads,

streets, and bridges, amounted to 10,017l.

Mr. T. E. Laing, the new Colonial Surveyor, arrived in the Colony on 22nd December 1894. For some years past the work of this Department has been carried on under a clerk of works in charge.

(9.)—LEGISLATION.

12 Ordinances were passed during the year: none of these call for special mention.

(10.)—Civil Establishment.

The Governor.

Major Crooks, Colonial Secretary, administered the Government during the absence on leave of Sir Francis Fleming, from the 1st February to the 13th March, when Colonel Cardew, C.M.G., took over the Government as Administrator until permanently appointed as Governor on 28th November 1894.

SIERRA LEONE. 1894.

(11.)—Pensions.

The sum paid on account of pensions and other retiring allowances during the year amounted to 2,419l., being a decrease of 838l. under that of the previous year.

(12.)—Population and VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The last census was taken on 5th April 1891, as reported in report for 1893. The numbers were, coloured, 74,611, white, 224, total 74,835.

Births and Deaths.

The total number of births registered during the year was

1,276 and deaths 1,449.

In the city of Freetown only the following were recorded:—births, 647, deaths, 800. Estimated population, 45,000. Death rate per 1,000 was 17.7; there is no doubt, however, that a large number of deaths are still unregistered, which will account for the low death-rate.

(13.)—ECCLESIASTICAL.

There are 130 places of worship belonging to the various Christian denominations, and, according to the last census returns, the number of persons professing Christianity was 41,361.

(14.)—EDUCATION.

The number of schools examined for the year 1894 was 63, the number of pupils on the rolls was, boys, 4,356, girls, 3,980, total, 8,336; and the amount of Government grants awarded was 932l. 7s.

Technical School.

A fund was started by the Church Missionary Society for the above object during the year, and in November a gentleman connected with the society was sent out from England to prepare plans for public information; his information was duly given in the presence of the Governor (Colonel Cardew) and several leading people in Freetown, on the occasion of the cathedral school prizegiving just before Christmas, and the result was that a small technical school committee was formed.

There are six high schools in Freetown, three for boys and three

Fourah Bay College, situated close to Freetown, is supported by the Church Missionary Society, and it is affiliated to the University of Durham; there were 16 students during 1894.

7

Two weekly newspapers were published in Freetown, and a fortnightly one at Sherbro.

SIERRA LEONE. 1894.

531

(15.)—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

The total value, the direction of the trade of the Colony, and the customs duties realised during the year 1894, are as follows:—

Value of imports from :-

				£
The United Kingdom	-	-		381,248
British colonies	-	-		11,012
Foreign countries	- 1		-	85,766
Total value	- 17		-	478,026
Customs duty, specific and ad a	alore	m	-	79,801

There has been an increase in the imports from the United

Kingdom of 55,419l. as compared with last year.

The British Colonies show an increase of 5,469l., but there is a decrease in imports from foreign countries as compared with 1893 of 328l.

The net increase on imports this year is 61,559l. and the increase on Customs duty, as compared with 1893, is 7,630l.

EXPORTS.

The value of exports during the year 1894 is as follows:-

71
73
55
9
5

There has been an increase in the value of exports to the United Kingdom of 30,116l. as compared with last year, a decrease in the value of exports to British Colonies of 5,6071., an increase in the value of exports to foreign countries of 3,326, and a net increase of 27,835l.

The chief exports were palm kernels, rubber, kola nuts, palm

oil, ginger, rice, gum copal, pepper, and benni seed.

It may here be mentioned that the Customs Revenue in 1894 is higher than it has been since the Colony was formed, but, as there are now far more traders engaged in commerce than formerly, there is keener competition, and, therefore, smaller profits. There are still large quantities of produce lost through waste, particularly in regard to palm oil and palm kernels, in consequence of difficulty of transport. This is where a railway would be so useful, and, when this project is completed, a much larger trade may confidently be expected.

SIERRA LEONE. 1894. I may mention also that the trade in Sherbro will be considerably increased when the Imperri district is more settled. The secret society which at present exists, resulting in the Imperri murders by so-called human leopards, prevents the collection of large quantities of produce in this very rich district.

There is also a custom which has interfered greatly with trade, viz.:—certain chiefs, for various reasons of their own, place an interdict on the collection of produce from time to time. This is

called "Porroh Law."

(16.)—SHIPPING.

The total number of sailing vessels and steamers entered and cleared during the year was 1,558, with a tonnage of 962,046, showing an increase in the number of vessels as compared with last year of 43.

Quarantine.

During the year, only three vessels were placed under observation for a few hours.

(17.)—AGRICULTURE.

There has been no marked improvement under this head. It is to be hoped that when a botanical station is started in the Colony, and encouragement given thereby to cultivators of coffee, cocoa, kola nuts, &c., matters may improve under this head.

(18.)—GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The number of prisoners committed to and received in the prisons of the Colony during the year were:—Males 650, females 31, juveniles 6; total 687, showing an increase of 129 over last year.

(19:)—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported during the year was 1,495, the number of persons apprehended 1,635, the number of summary convictions 687, supreme court convictions 53, and acquittals 424.

There is a decrease in number of cases reported and apprehensions in Freetown as compared with 1893, but there is a slight increase in offences against property in general, viz., burglary and larceny. This cannot be attributed to the large influx of aborigines, as most of the burglars were old offenders, but may be due to the fact that a detective force has been organized. During the rainy season, when burglaries are frequent, a larger number of police are much required for night duty.

Offences remain as in 1893, namely nearly three per cent. on

population.

In the Imperri district, Sherbro, the crime of murder still continues frequent. The so-called human leopards, or men dressed in leopard skins, attack solitary individuals and murder them for some special purpose; some say cannibalism is the object; but in any case it appears to be the result of an organized secret society, and, so far, the Government have failed to put a stop to the custom, although efforts have been made in that direction. In other respects the Sherbro district shows a general reduction in crime.

SIERRA LEONE. 1894.

(20.)—Hospitals.

The total number of persons admitted into the various hospitals of the Colony during the year was 1,186, and the number of deaths 191.

The Acting-Colonial Surgeon states:—

"During the year the sanitary condition of the hospital was very satisfactorily maintained."

Freetown Gaol Hospital.

The sanitary condition of the gaol has been satisfactory; "Beri-beri" showed itself at the commencement of the rains in 13 prisoners. Eight or these were cured, and five released on medical grounds and sent to Isles de Los for the benefit of their health, which resulted in their recovery. The majority of these cases occurred amongst political prisoners from the interior, and showed itself about two months after imprisonment.

There were no deaths during the year.

(21.)—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The total admissions during the year were 37, discharges, 8,

and deaths, 23.

The asylum is situated at Kissy, about three miles from Freetown. It is in a good and healthy position, but that building, as well as the Incurable and Small-Pox Hospitals situated close by, should be rebuilt as soon as funds are available, all being very old and dilapidated.

The daily average number in the asylum during the year was

104.3.

(22.)—CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

There are no almshouses or private charitable institutions in the Colony, with the exception of the Princess Christian Cottage Hospital, started in 1892 by the Bishop of Sierra Leone and

some friends in England.

This institution is doing admirable work, and the English ladies who have given their help voluntarily, as nurses and general managers, deserve the sincere thanks of the community of this Colony.

o 89400.

SIERRA LEONE. 1894. The Colonial Government votes annually 400l. towards the relief of the poor, and the grant is distributed monthly by the charity commissioners.

(23.)—RAILWAYS, CANALS, ROADS, &c.

There are no railways, canals, inland telegraphs, or telephones in the Colony. The roads, with few exceptions, are poor. Horses do not live in the Colony for any time. It is to be hoped that before long a railway will be opened, a survey having been made in 1893.

GENERAL REMARKS.

(1.)—THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Assistant Colonial Surgeon reports as follows:—

"The public health during the year was most unsatisfactory; a good deal of sickness was prevalent among the natives and

European residents.

"This was particularly noticed during the months of February, May, June, July, and August, when malarial fever of a pernicious type was prevalent; during the latter half of the year when diarrhæa (of a dysenteric type), bronchitis, and small-pox were very general."

The number of deaths among Europeans was 16 (including one case on board a steamer in port, and three cases that died within 36 hours after landing in Freetown from the rivers).

The causes of death were as follows:-

- 13 Bilious remittent hæmorrhagic fever.
 - 1 Convulsions.
 - 1 Hepatic congestion.
 - 1 Died on his way to Freetown from Hinterland from malarial fever.

16

Small-pox.

Small-pox was introduced into the city by means of native traders from Port Lokkoh, Rutifunk, Bompeh, and districts of the Protectorate where it was raging in an epidemic form. Every precaution was taken, and vaccination was conducted extensively during the year throughout the peninsula and at Sherbro.

(2.)—RAINFALL.

The rainfall for the year was in Freetown, as taken in the Colonial Hospital, 141.26 inches as against 168 06 inches in 1893.

(3).—Governor's Tours.

On the 27th March his Excellency Colonel Cardew, accompanied by the District Commissioner of Sherbro, the Acting Inspector General of Frontier Police, one Inspector, and Mr. Parkes, Superintendent of Native Affairs, proceeded to the Hinterland viâ Waterloo, in order to establish police posts in the most convenient centres, and to visit the Kono district which had been the scene of recent raids by the Sofas and Mendis.

During this visit he fixed upon Mongheri and Falaba as posts, and arranged for a company of Frontier Police to be stationed at

each place under the command of a European officer.

On this occasion his Excellency also took steps for the adoption of stringent measures for stopping the overland slave traffic, which was rife in the districts through which he travelled.

His Excellency returned from this journey, which covered over

600 miles and occupied 51 days, on the 17th May.

(4).—Taiwor Disturbances

Perry Duaroo or Pedwaro, who resided in Liberian territory, appears to have been at the bottom of these disturbances, which since 1892 have been causing considerable trouble, devastating the whole of the Taiwor and Gor country, and interfering with trade in the Sulimah district.

It would seem that on the 10th April 1893, a man named Tambawa, employed by Perry Duaroe, with his war boys, crossed over into Taiwor land (Liberian territory), came into Tunkia, within the British sphere of influence, and during the same month made advances to employ mercenaries from Pow Lalana, the Chief of that place, to assist him in his projects. He then, with Perry Duaroe and their followers, occupied the towns of Bakehmah and Fangawalahun within the British sphere, from whence they used to cross over to make wars in Taiwor (Liberian territory) and take to the Gora country such persons as they could capture.

These troubles on our border formed the subject of much correspondence with the Liberian Government during the year, and necessitated the Government posting extra police in the Sulimah district to try and keep peace, and matters were not satisfactorily

settled at the close of the year.

Proclamations.

In consequence of the disturbances which had prevailed in the Sanda Lokkoh district for several years, and the consequent increase of the slave trade there, it became necessary, on the 1st of June, to issue a proclamation prohibiting the importation of flint-lock guns and trade powder into the disturbed area and to take measures for the arrest of Fombo and S, usa the leaders in

SIERRA LEONE. 1894. 535

SIERRA LEONE, 1894. these disturbances. The steps proved successful, and they were arrested and detained as political prisoners under Ordinance, No. 4 of 20th August.

Labourers engaged for Congo Free State.

In consequence of reports as to the treatment of natives engaged in the Colony for service in the Congo Free State it was deemed necessary to issue a notice on the 5th of June, notifying that persons desirous of entering the service of that State should not leave the Colony without having a written agreement stating the nature of employment and the terms of service, signed before the police magistrate of Freetown, or the district commissioners of the Sherbro, Eastern, or Western Districts, who would explain it to them.

Political Prisoners.

The general state of the country having become quite peaceful, the political prisoners who had been deported to Elmina and Bathurst for the part they had taken in the Yonni disturbances, which necessitated the expedition of Sir Francis de Winton in 1887, and the Sulimah disturbances, which were suppressed by the measures taken by Sir James Hay in 1888, were released and restored to their homes.

9th October 1895.

J. C. GORE, Acting Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 170.

SIERRA LEONE.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 160 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

July 1896.



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1896.

[C.—7944.-22.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.		Colony.			Ų.	Year.
136	Gold Coast -					1893
137	Zululand				-	1894
138	Bermuda		-	-	-	"
139	Bahamas -	-			-	"
140	Barbados	-	-	. ·	-	59
141	Turks and Caicos Isl	ands -	-		-	"
142	Malta	-			-	99
143	Gambia			-	-	99
144	Windward Islands -		-	-	-	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago			-		"
146	Gibraltar			17.		"
147	Falkland Islands -	-	•	-	-	"
148	Hong Kong -		1 Sec - 16		-	,,
149	Straits Settlements	-	-	-	-	"
150	Lagos	-		1 - 54	-	"
151	Seychelles	-	-	-	-	1894-5
152	Basutoland -		3.5	4-1-	-	1894
153	Fiji				-	"
154	St. Helena	-	•	•	-	"
155	Ceylon		•		-	"
156	Mauritius	-	-	Transfer and	-	"
157	Labuan	-		-	-	,,
158	Gold Coast -				-	"
159	British Guiana -			•	-	,,
160	Sierra Leone -	•		•	-	9,9
161	Jamaica			•	-	1894-5
162	British Honduras -		-	- 10	-	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	-			-	1894-5
164	Newfoundland -	-			-	1894
165	Gambia			•	-	1895
166	Bermuda -			5,T-	-	,,
167	Leeward Islands -		-		-	1894
168	British New Guinea	•			-	1894-5
169	Zululand	•		-	-	1895

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.		Subject.	
1	Gold Coast		•	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand		210	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	100 miles	-	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -		-	Emigration.
5	Bahamas			Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong		-	Bubonic Plague.

3

539

No. 170.

SIERRA LEONE.

SPERRA LEONE. 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 160.)

Governor CARDEW to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN

Government House, Freetown, Sierra Leone,

May 22, 1896. SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Blue Book of the Colony of Sierra Leone for the year 1895, which has been prepared by Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. Gore, Colonial Secretary.

The Blue Book itself cannot be completed for some months, but every endeavour will be made to forward it as early as possible; in the meantime the accompanying report gives a summary of information with regard to the state of the revenue, trade, &c.

I have, &c.

F. CARDEW, Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK, 1895.

1. Taxes and Duties.

On the 27th December 1895 an Ordinance was passed (No. 19) amending the Law relating to Customs duties upon spirits, by which duty is charged on the imperial gallon of spirits below proof, instead of, as heretofore, in regard to this class of spirits, on the proof gallon. This measure was to come into force on the

1st January 1896.

There is no export duty, nor is there direct taxation at present. The Municipal Council have power, under Ordinance No. 6 of 1893, to charge for certain licenses, such as business licenses, licenses for vehicles, entertainments, &c., and also to levy a rate called the city rate, which shall be assessed on, and shall not exceed 10 per centum of the annual value of, all kinds of hereditaments comprised within the city, to be ascertained by a Valuation List.

Wt. 20348. o 92570.

SIERRA LEONE. 4

1895.

2. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The estimated revenue for 1895 was 106,825l. The sum actually realised, however, was 97,851l. 17s. 3d., being 8,973l. 2s. 9d. below the amount estimated.

This is accounted for by the great fall off in Customs receipts for the year, amounting to 7,546l. 13s. 4d., due chiefly to the depression in the Sherbro and Sulymah trade owing to the reduction in the price of palm kernels between the months of January and August. This led to many of the native Chiefs forming a combination and issuing orders to their people not to sell the kernels under 5s. a bushel, thus causing a deadlock in trade for the time being.

The following is a comparative statement of the monthly receipts at Sherbro from the 1st February to 30th April for 1894 and 1895:-

			1894.	1895
February -			£ 912	£ 798
March -		-	912	304
April •	•	-	1,815	509
Total			3,639	1,611

This represents an average monthly receipt of 1,213l. in 1894, as against 537l. in 1895, or a deficit of 55.7 per cent.

The amount realised for the year was, however, only 986l. 1s. 8d. below that of 1894, when the Customs revenue reached the highest figure it has done since the Colony was formed.

Expenditure.

The estimated expenditure for 1895 was 105,724l., and the amount actually expended, exclusive of 3,556l. 15s. for the Sierra Leone Railway service, was 96,690l. 17s. 4d., showing a saving on the estimates of 9,033l. 2s. 8d.

Revenue Expenditure	-		•	£ 97,851 96,690	s. 17 17	d. 3 4
Balance to	credit of	Colony	•	1,160	19	11

It was decided to raise a loan of 150,000% to meet the expenses connected with the Sierra Leone Railway.

3. Assets and Liabilities.

SIERRA LEONE. 1895.

The assets on the 31st December 1895 exceeded the liabilities by 39,284l. 8s. 9d.

4. PUBLIC DEBT.

This remains the same, viz., 50,000l. raised in 1871-73 for constructing public works, to be repaid in 1896-98.

The sinking fund for its redemption amounted to 45,226l. 16s. 2d.

on the 31st December 1895.

5. MUNICIPALITY.

The first election of councillors for the city of Freetown was held on the 5th August 1895. The first mayor elected was the Honourable Samuel Lewis, C.M.G., B.L.

The Council consists of a mayor and fifteen councillors, three of whom are appointed by the Government, the others being elected.

6. MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

The Colony does not contribute towards the upkeep of the troops.

The local expenditure incurred by the Imperial Government for

the year amounted to 60,382l., as against 57,852l. for 1894.

The garrison consists of a European detachment of Royal Artillery, a native battery of West African Artillery, a detachment of Fortress Engineers and a battalion of the West India Regiment.

The troops receive an allowance, which amounted during the year to 1,338l., as against 1,151l. for 1894, as compensation for customs duties payable by them.

There is no militia.

7. THE SIERRA LEONE FRONTIER POLICE.

The establishment for 1895 was as follows:—

1 inspector-general

6 inspectors

4 assistant inspectors

5 sub-inspectors (natives)

1 paymaster (native)

1 medical officer (native)

1 regimental sergeant-major

1 quartermaster sergeant

1 orderly room clerk

20 sergeants

20 corporals

8 boys

450 privates

SIERRA LEONE. 1895. The four assistant inspectors were appointed during the year, and at the same time there was a reduction of 50 privates made, which leaves the total as shown above.

The protectorate for police purposes is divided into five districts, with a company consisting of a European officer, a native officer, eight non-commissioned officers and 90 men in each district, viz.:—Karena, Falaba, Pangoma, Bandasuma, and Freetown, where the headquarters of the whole corps is situated. Small detachments, usually consisting of a non-commissioned officer and three privates, are posted at the most important places, such as towns where several routes converge, and the whole district is searched by constant patrols, in order to check the slave traffic, prevent slave raiding, and maintain general peace and order. The Colony of Sierra Leone with its protectorate measures about 210 miles from north to south, and 180 miles from east to west, and embraces an area of about 30,000 square miles.

8. Public Works.

The expenditure on public works, repairs to buildings, roads, streets, and bridges amounted to 7,831*l*., as against 10,017*l*. in 1894. The sum estimated for the year was, however, 9,730*l*., but several items had to be put aside owing to the fall in the revenue.

9. LEGISLATION.

Twenty Ordinances were passed during the year, as against 12 in 1894.

No. 5. An Ordinance to legalise and render valid the ward electors' lists and electors' roll for the purpose of holding the first election of councillors for the city of Freetown in the month of August was passed on the 26th June.

No. 8. An Ordinance to amend the law with reference to trial by jury was passed on the 7th day of August, by which trial by the court with the aid of assessors in certain cases became law.

By this Ordinance, in cases not punishable by death, a return has

been made to the old system of a majority verdict.

The property qualification of jurors was raised, and the Governor in Council has the power of ordering a trial by assessors in the case of public officers charged with certain criminal offences

affecting Government property.

No. 12. This Ordinance was passed to legalise the detention of Tambawa as a political prisoner, on account of his having been engaged, since 1892, in disturbing the peace of the North Faiama and Gorohun districts in the British sphere of influence, and the districts of the Tehwa and Golo in Liberian territory, which disturbances seriously interfered with the trade of the Sherbro district.

No. 15. This Ordinance was necessary in order to facilitate the detection and punishment of murders committed by the secret society which has existed for a long time in the Imperi district, known as "The Human Leopard Society." It makes the wearing

or possession of certain articles—such as a leopard skin so shaped as to make a man wearing it resemble a leopard; a leopard knife or knives, with two prongs; certain native medicine known as "Borfima,"—penal. It also gives the police greater powers of arrest and search on a warrant from a magistrate.

1895.

SIERRA LEONE.

No. 19. An Ordinance to amend the law relating to customs

duties on spirits, passed on the 27th day of December.

The effect of this is to charge duty on the imperial, instead of the proof, gallon in the case of spirits under proof, and it was introduced for the following reasons:—

(1) To check the introduction into the Colony of a very inferior class of trade spirits, hitherto largely introduced and consumed chiefly by the natives of the hinterland who are the collectors of produce;

(2) To increase the revenue, necessary to meet expenses connected with the development of the Colony by means of

a railway, &c., &c.

10. CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Several important changes took place during this year.

Sir William Quayle Jones, Kt., Chief Justice, and Major Crooks, Colonial Secretary, retired on pension. Lieut.-Col. J. C. Gore succeeded Major Crooks as Colonial Secretary, taking up the duties of that office on the 1st June. The appointment of Chief Justice was not filled before the end of the year.

Mr. Macarthy, Queen's Advocate, was transferred to the Gold Coast Colony as Solicitor-General, and Mr. P. Crampton

Smyly, B.L., was appointed in his place.

Lieut.-Col. Caulfeild, Commanding the Troops, administered the Government from 14th June to the 13th December, during the absence on leave of his Excellency the Governor.

11. Pensions.

The sum paid on account of pensions and other retiring allowances during the year amounted to 2,454l. 5s., being a slight increase on the amount expended last year.

12. POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

There has been no census taken since 1891 when the numbers were as follows:—

Coloured, 74,611; white, 224; total, 74,835.

Births and Deaths.

The total number of births registered during the year in the Colony was 1,445, and deaths, 1,509 as against births, 1,276, and deaths, 1,449, during the previous year.

The death rate for the Colony per 1,000 was 20.16.

SIERRA LEONE, 1895. The total number of births registered in Freetown for the year was 615, and deaths 847, as against births 647, and deaths 800, in 1894, the death rate per 1,000 being 21.03.

The estimated population of the city of Freetown is about

40,326.

13. ECCLESIASTICAL.

There are 130 places of worship belonging to the various Christian denominations, and according to the last returns the number of persons professing Christianity was 41,361.

14. EDUCATION.

Sixty-three schools and one department were inspected and examined during the year 1894-5. The number of children present at the inspections was 6,826, the number on the rolls being 8,337.

The total of "grants in aid" earned upon examination for the

year was 932l.

At a meeting of the Board of Education a committee of ladies and gentlemen was formed with the object of holding a competitive examination of school work, and on the 18th December the examination, which was fairly good, was held.

Technical School.

A Government grant of 420l towards the initial expenses of this institution was approved by the Secretary of State, and also an annual grant of 100l for five years from the opening of the school. Private subscriptions having also been raised and a plot of ground granted by the Government, the building was commenced, and by the end of 1895 it was nearly completed.

It is to be hoped that this institution may be the means of educating young men who desire to become efficient carpenters, masons, &c., these trades being at present very badly represented.

Two weekly newspapers are published in Freetown.

15. IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

The total value, the direction of the trade of the Colony, and the customs duties realised during the year 1895, are as follows:—

				£	s.	d.
From	United Kingdom	-	-	336,414	8	3
,,	British Colonies	-		5,754		
1)	Foreign Countries	-	10.	85,168	17	11
	Total value	-		427,337	15	4

9

Customs duty, specific - Ad valorem		£ 65,473 17,105	s. 10 10	d. 7 0	SIERRA LEONE. 1895.
Total duty	-	82,579	0	7	

There has been a decrease in the imports generally, viz.:—

				t	
From United Kingdom	-	-	5 T- 1	44,834	
" British Colonies	-	-	-	5,258	
" Foreign Countries	-	-	-	598	
as compared with last year.					

The net decrease on imports this year is 50,687l., as follows:—

					£
Cotton goods	-				28,218
Woollen goods	-		-	-	5,137
Haberdashery	-			-	3,241
Hats and caps	-		-	-	1,802
Apparel -	-	-	-	-	1,672
Earthenware	-	-			809
Goods liable to speci	fic d	luty:—			
Hardware	-			-	4,171
Specie -	2	•	-	-	5,700
		Total	-		50,750

The decrease in cotton and woollen goods is due to depression of trade in the Sherbro district during the early part of the year.

There is, however, a net increase on customs duty, as compared with 1894, of 2,778l. This is due to more duty collected on goods liable to specific duty, chiefly on the following articles:-

						£
Rum	-		-	-	_	656
Tobacco		49 4	-	× 1	-	1,351
Geneva	-		-		-	1,911
		other spirits	3	-	-	1,068
Kerosine	oil	-	-	-		491
Wine	-	-	-	-	-	117
		Total	-		-	5,584
						-

Deducting the decrease on goods liable to ad valorem duty, together with hardware, viz., 2,866l., the difference is nearly as shown above.

The value of goods warehoused in 1895 amounted to 84,978l., as against 112,821l in 1894, showing a decrease of 27,843l.

Goods entered for home consumption also show a decrease of 35,394l., due to a slight depression of trade generally.

SIERRA LEONE. 1895. The total value of goods imported by the Colonial Government is 7,081*l.*, or an increase of 3,298*l.* over 1894, consequent on the greater importation of clothing (for police, gaols, &c.), boats, machinery, musical instruments (organ for cathedral), medicines, earthenware, iron pipes, furniture, &c.

There is a falling off in value of goods imported by the Imperial Government to the extent of 4,1121, due to the less importation of guns, specie (money being obtained in sufficient quantity from the Colonial Government, &c.), provisions and clothing.

Exports.

The value of exports during the year 1895 was as follows:-

			£	S.	d.
To United Kingdom			206,872	17	7
" British Colonies		-	21,792	0	7
" Foreign countries	-	-	223,939	6	5
Total value	-	-	452,604	4	7

There has been an increase in the value of exports to the United Kingdom of 9,701*l*. as compared with last year, a decrease in the value of exports to British Colonies of 3,081*l*., an increase in the value of exports to foreign countries of 18,494*l*., and a net increase of 26,105*l*.

This increase is principally on-

				£
Palm oil -		-	•	10,367
Palm kernels -		-	-	1,467
Rubber		•		35,997
Gum copal -		-	-	726
Cotton goods for	Northern	Rivers		4,552
	Total	3		53,109
				CONTRACTOR OF STANDARD

There is a decrease on some of the other important articles of trade, such as—

buch as					£
Kola nuts	-	-			1,109
Ginger -	-	-	•		2,320
Benniseed	-		-	-	2,236
Rice -	-			-	5,534
Coffee -	-		- 12 m	-	692
Specie -				-	13,789
Guns -	-	- 1		-	592
Empty casks	()-	-		-	525
Haberdashery	-	-		-	316
		Total	-	-	27,113

which, if deducted, gives a net increase nearly as above.

547

On the whole, the export trade of the Colony for 1895 was very satisfactory.

SIERRA LEONE. 1895.

16. SHIPPING.

The total number and tonnage of sailing and steam vessels entered at ports in the Colony during the year 1895 was—

		No.	Tonnage.
Sailing vessels	-	382	10,386
Steam vessels		407	500,144
Total	-	789	510,530

The number and tonnage of vessels cleared was—

			No.	Tonnage.
Sailing vessels		-	362	11,198
Steam vessels	•	-	411	500,142
Total	100		773	511,340

a decrease in number as regards steamers entered, viz., 407 as against 429 in 1894, but an increase of sailing vessels, viz., 382 as against 354 in 1894.

17. AGRICULTURE.

A botanic station was established near Freetown this year, and a curator arrived in the Colony on the 2nd December.

It having been decided to hold an agricultural exhibition in January 1896, a committee was formed to make the necessary arrangements.

A Government grant of 100l. was voted in aid of prizes to be given at this exhibition, and public subscriptions were raised

towards the same good object.

It is to be hoped that the exhibition will be held annually, that a greater interest in agricultural pursuits will thus be fostered in the community, and that, in time, the natives of the hinterland will be taught a better method of cultivating, collecting, and preparing

the valuable products of the country.

There is no doubt that, in consequence of their present lack of knowledge, and also from want of cheap means of transport, large quantities of produce are wasted and the commercial value of what is collected, particularly rubber, palm oil, and coffee, is very much depreciated owing to the crude manner in which it is prepared for the market.

SIERRA LEONE. 1895.

18. GACLS AND PRISONERS.

The number of prisoners committed to and received in the gaols of the Colony during the year were:—

Freetown gaol	-	-		-	508
Sherbro gaol	-		-		115
Eastern district	-		-	1000	28
Western district			-	-	33
To	tal			-	685

The number of prisoners sentenced during the year to penal imprisonment in Freetown gaol was 346, and the number of convictions by the police magistrate for offences of a light nature was 192.

19. CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

Of 1,161 prisoners charged before the police magistrate, 410 were discharged, 245 were dismissed, 427 summarily convicted, and 79 referred for trial.

The total number of convictions and commitments for trial was less than that of the previous year by 29.

The total number of offences against the person for 1895 was 26 above that of 1894.

There was a slight decrease in the number of larceny cases, possibly due to the fact that a fair number of loafers and bad characters emigrated to the Congo and Fernando Po.

The number of persons charged with housebreaking was about three times that of 1894. This I consider due to the increased activity of the police.

In regard to the Sherbro district there was an increase of 10 in

the charges of larceny for the year 1895 over 1894.

I may here remark that owing to the great distance of the judicial court at Bonthe from the outstations at Lavana, Sulima, Mano Salija, and other places within active jurisdiction of the Sherbro district, it is certain that many cases which should be tried are never brought to justice. It therefore appears very desirable to give greater facility for the proper administration of justice in this important district, and it may be necessary to appoint another district commissioner in the near future.

20. HOSPITALS.

The total number of persons admitted into the various hospitals of the Colony during the year was 1,391 and the number of deaths 191.

The sanitary condition of the hospitals was satisfactory.

Freetown Gaol Hospital.

The sanitary condition of the gaol has been very satisfactory. The average daily number on sick list was 16.

13

COLONIAL REPORTS. -- ANNUAL.

There was one death during the year, giving a death rate of 2.2 per cent. among the total male admissions and '16 per cent. among the total inmates.

SIERRA LEONE. 1895.

549

21. LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The total number of admissions during the year were 10, discharges 1, and deaths 10.

The daily average number of patients was 103.41.

22. CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

There are no almshouses or other charitable institutions, but the Colonial Government votes annually 400l. towards the relief of the poor, and the grant is distributed monthly by the Charity Commissioners, one of whom is always a Government officer.

The Princess Christian Hospital, opened in June 1892, for the purpose of training educated African ladies in nursing and administering to the bodily and spiritual needs of the sick poor, still continues to do good work, and to be highly appreciated.

The hospital staff consists of three European ladies, two of whom are honorary workers, assisted by three African ladies as probationers, and this year Dr. Hugh Ross arrived from England and was appointed medical officer, vice Dr. Jackson, retired.

23. RAILWAYS, CANALS, ROADS, &c.

Commencement of the Pioneer Railway in West Africa.

On the 14th November Mr. W. Bradford, with a staff of assistants, arrived in Freetown and commenced a survey for a narrow gauge railway (2' 6") from the Racecourse, near Cline Town, about two miles from Freetown, to Songo Town, a distance of about 30 miles.

As it was decided to land all material for the construction of the railway at Cline Town Bay, in order to avoid land transport as much as possible, arrangements were at once made to build a pier at that place and construct a branch line from thence to the Racecourse where the depôt from which the trunk line commenced would be situated.

GENERAL REMARKS.

1. The Public Health.

The public health generally was fairly good in 1895 as com-

pared with the previous year.

The number of deaths among Europeans was only six as against 16 in 1894; but there were a considerable number of serious cases invalided.

SIERRA LEONE. 1895.

The causes of death were as follows:— Fever, remittent—1 case of a missionary from	Rive	ara	
who died before reaching Freetown	10111		4
Meningitis (sailor just landed)		-	1
Sudden death, coroner's inquest -	-	-	1
			-
			6

Small-Pox.

There was a serious epidemic of small-pox during the year throughout the Colony, but it was felt more severely in Freetown and at Sherbro. Every precaution was taken, vaccination being conducted extensively. The disease is introduced by native traders from the rivers.

2. Rainfall.

The rainfall for the year was 99.23 inches, as against 141.26 inches in 1894. The marked difference between the rainfall in 1894 and 1895 is worthy of note.

1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.
217.43	154.74	143.99	145.24	121.14	133-61	145.78	168-06

3. Governor's Tours.

His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Lieut. H. L. Barker, A.D.C., and Captain J. N. Compton, late R.N., left Free-town on board the Colonial steamer "Countess of Derby" on the 30th January and landed at Waterloo, from whence he proceeded on a lengthy tour (some 600 miles) through the Mendi, Bonibali, Luawa, Kono, Koronko, Limba and Lokkoh districts, returning to Freetown, viâ Kambia, on the Great Skarcies River, on the 5th April.

The Water Supply.

This subject was considered by the Executive Council at a meeting held on 2nd October; a scheme having been prepared, together with plans, &c., for largely increasing the supply by Mr. T. E. Laing, Colonial Surveyor. It was then decided to approach the Municipal Council in the matter, and they agreed to the proposals made by Government, i.e., that the Government should bear the initial cost, estimated at 12,500l, and that the work should be started as soon as possible, under the superintendence of the Colonial Surveyor; also that the corporation should provide a sinking fund for the repayment to the Government of the money so expended within a given time, with interest, &c.

The matter was then considered by the Legislative Council and approved, the scheme being referred to the Right Honourable

the Secretary of State for sanction.

This is a very important question both in regard to the health of the town, the absolute needs of the inhabitants, and also in case of fire. With the present supply it is impossible to obtain sufficient water, during the dry season, to be of the slightest use in the event of a fire occurring, and in a town in which most of the houses are of wood plenty of water, with stand-pipes in the different streets, is most necessary.

Sierra Leone is the only Colony on the West Coast blessed with a pure and good supply of water, it is merely a question of collecting and distributing it throughout the town. Certain faults found in the pipes of the present small supply have already been remedied and the gradient improved. There is now a constant supply therefrom, both at the stand-pipes and in the few private houses which have been connected therewith, so that, as far as it goes, it is fairly satisfactory.

May 1896.

J. C. Gore, Colonial Secretary. SIERRA LEONE. 1895.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 149.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, see Colonial Report [Annual] No. 121.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1896.



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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.		Colony.	Year.
116	British Honduras -		1893
117	Trinidad and Tobago		,,
118	Falkland Islands -		- ,,,,
119	Rodrigues -		- " "
120	Mauritius		- "
121	Straits Settlements		,,
122	Labuan		,,
123	Basutoland -		- 1893–94
124	St. Lucia -		- 1893
125	St. Helena -		- ,,,
126	Ceylon	• 1/4 •	- ",
127	Fiji		- ","
128	Grenada		- ",
129	Sierra Leone -		- / ,,,
130	British Bechuanaland		1893–94
131	British New Guinea		- 1892–3 &
			1893-94
132	Lagos		- 1893
133	British Guiana -		1893–94
134	Jamaica		- ",
135	Newfoundland -		1893
136	Gold Coast -		
137	Zululand		1894
138	Bermuda		,,
139	Bahamas		- "
140	Barbados		,,
141	Turks and Caicos Islan	nds	"
142	Malta		- ","
143	Gambia		,,
144	Windward Islands		,,
145	Trinidad and Tobago		,,
146	Gibraltar		,,
147	Falkland Islands -		,,
148	Hong Kong -		,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

o.	Colon	y •	Subject.
1 2 3 4	Gold Coast Zululand Sierra Leone Canada -		Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany. Emigration.

No. 149.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

[For Report for 1893, see Colonial Report (Annual) No. 121.]

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.
1894.

Acting-Governor SWETTENHAM to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government Hill, Singapore,

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward copies of the Report on the
Straits Settlements for the year 1894.

I have, &c.

J. A. SWETTENHAM.

REPORT ON THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1894.

FINANCIAL.

1. For the first time for several years the revenue of the Colony exceeded the expenditure in the year under review. This result was due in part to increased rates of fees charged in various departments, but principally to the rigid economy which was exercised in all branches of expenditure. A retrenchment committee sat in the beginning of the year, and recommended a large number of economies, many of which were carried out during the year.

2. The revenue for 1894 amounted to \$3,904,774, divided among the three Settlements as follows:—

Singapore - - - - 2,185,431
Penang - - - 1,407,907
Malacca - - - 311,436

This exceeded the revenue for 1893 by \$198,466.

3. The principal heads of revenue under which an increase is noticeable are:—

					φ
Land revenue	-	-	-		86,998
Licenses	A CONTRACTOR				56,120
		W 7 T.			51.481
Postage -	od Ein		THE V	The The	OI, FOI

o 88539. Wt. 20348.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1894. The increased land revenue is partly accounted for by an item of \$51,770 realised by special sales of town lands, of which there were none in 1893. There was also an increase in the amount of fees received for registration of \$13,180, owing to the introduction of the Registration of Deeds Ordinance in Penang on 1st July—a large number of titles having been presented for registration before that date to escape the increased scale of fees. The introduction of a revised scale of fees for Pawnbrokers' Licenses explains the increase under the head of licenses. The increase in postage is due in part to increased correspondence and in part to the revised rates of postage introduced in consequence of the fall in exchange.

The principal decrease was under the head of interest (\$13,582),

the Sungei Ujong debt having been paid off by Selangor.

4. The expenditure of 1894 shows a decrease of \$200,862, as compared with the preceding year, owing to the retrenchments which were carried out in almost all departments.

The total expenditure for each of the last three years has been

as follows :-

						3
1892	-	-	-	-	-	4,266,407
1893	-	-	-	-	-	3,915.482
1894	•	7		-	-	3,714,620

The expenditure of 1892, however, included a payment of \$162,162 for arrears under the head of military expenditure.

5. The principal decreases apparent in the items of expenditure, as compared with 1893, are as follows:—

				\$
Works and buildings	-	•	-	117,773
Roads, streets and bridges	-	E ANT E	-	51,451
Military expenditure		-	-	16,075
Miscellaneous services	-		-	101,773

Under the last of these heads were included, in 1893, sums of \$45,000, balance of contribution to the cost of the Telok Ayer Market and \$50,801 re-survey of the Colony.

The chief increases are—

	1					\$
Salaries	-			-	-	51,094
Interest	-	-			-	39,545
Pensions	-	-	- (-	-12	-	9,824
Postal					-	6,751

The total for salaries included in 1894 a sum of \$99,300, for exchange compensation to officers domiciled in gold countries. The increases under headings "Interest" and "Postal" are explained by loss in exchange on remittances to Crown Agents for salaries and pensions payable in England and for the contribution to the Imperial Post Office, respectively.

6. A comparison of the assets and liabilities on 31st December 1894, gives a balance in favour of assets of \$1,758,948, as against \$1,534,514 on 31st December 1893. In the balance of \$1,758,948

are included the investments given under the head of Dependencies, amounting to \$1,104,732, these being loans to the native States of Settlements. Negri Sembilan and Pahang and the municipality of Malacca. The following tabular statement shows the balances as they stood at the beginning of 1894 and 1895, respectively:

STRAITS 1894.

5

with a family	Ass	ets.	as by This	Liabilities.		
	Jan. 1st, 1894.	Jan. 1st, 1895.		Jan. 1st, 1894.	Jan. 1st, 1895.	
Cash on current ac- count with local banks -	\$ 6 3 9,525	\$.822,156	Deposits, &c Temporary loan -	\$ 676,142 141,424	\$ 614,355 141,424	
Cash on current ac-		de de	Suspense account -		58,856	
Agents Investments, gold -	16,345 136,869	17,031 136,869	Expenditure in arrears -	25,348	31,701	
Loans to native States	1,088,464	1,083,232	Net balance to the	835,020	846,336	
Loans to municipalities	22,000	21,500	credit of the Colony	1,534,514	1,758,948	
Other investments -	356,636	390,870	A Fairly The S			
Miscellaneous advan- ces &c., &c.	35,663	18,963			2 11 70	
Revenue in arrears -	74,632	114,663				
Total	2,369,534	2,605,284	Total	2,369,534	2,605,284	

EXCHANGE.

7. The downward tendency of exchange during the year is exhibited in the following table:-

Bank Bills.	-	January.	F	reoruary.		March.		April.	Moss	may.	Tuno	e uno	1.1.	July.	+ Creation A	August.	1	september.		October.	7	November.		December.
On London:— Sterling, on demand— Highest -	s. 2	$\frac{d}{3\frac{3}{4}}$	8.	d.	s. 2		s. 2	$\frac{d}{2\frac{1}{3}}$	8.	d.		d.	s. 2	$d.$ $1\frac{3}{8}$	8.	$\frac{d}{2\frac{3}{8}}$	s. 2	d . $\dot{2}\frac{3}{8}$	s. 2	$\frac{d}{2\frac{1}{4}}$	s. 2	d.	2	$0\frac{3}{8}$
Lowest -	2	3	2	0	1	11 §	2	01/4	2	03/4	2	1	2	11/8	2	1	2	178	2	11/8	2	01	1	114

The average rate of exchange during the year on demand was 2s. $1\frac{1}{4}d$., and at four months' sight was 2s. $1\frac{4}{5}d$., as compared with 2s. $7\frac{1}{5}d$. and 2s. $7\frac{4}{5}d$. in the preceding year.

The total estimated bank note circulation of the Colony on 31st December 1894 was \$7,394,488. It is confined entirely to the note issue of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia. and China, and of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. The Mercantile Bank of India Limited has at present no note issue in the Colony.

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.
1894.

MUNICIPALITIES.

8. The totals of the revenue and expenditure of the municipalities of the three Settlements were less than in 1893, but their financial condition is satisfactory, while steady progress has been made with various sanitary improvements.

The amount of rates and taxes levied outside municipal limits

was about half that expended on roads and bridges.

In Singapore a large extension of the existing reservoir, in Malacca, a new reservoir, and in Penang the strengthening of the

existing reservoir, were completed during the year.

Two slaughter-houses were built in Singapore, and their use was made compulsory from the 1st of December. The number of animals slaughtered in these houses in December was 9,913, as compared with 1,451 in the preceding month, and the number has since increased.

There were the usual frequent changes in the membership of the Boards, but there is rarely a contest for vacancies, and it is sometimes difficult to fill them, the Chinese and other merchants particularly exhibiting reluctance to give up their time to municipal business.

LEGISLATION.

9. The Legislative Council held 22 meetings during the year, and 20 Ordinances were passed, of which the most important were the Opium and Liquor Ordinances, the Prevention of Disease Ordinance, and the Municipal Slaughter-house Ordinance.

The law relating to opium and spirits had hitherto been contained in one Ordinance—No. IV. of 1870, with numerous subsequent amendments. Two Ordinances dealing separately with opium and with spirituous and fermented liquors now take their place.

In the Opium Ordinance the changes from the old law were not numerous or important, but the fee for a farm-shop was increased, and all such fees were paid to the Government instead

of to the farmer.

As regards spirituous and fermented liquors, on the other hand, important changes have been made. The duty on spirits has been doubled, and is now \$1.50 a gallon, and duties have been imposed on wines and and beer, which were formerly free. The duties are on sparkling wines \$1 a gallon, on still wines 50 cents, and on malt liquors, cider, and perry 18 cents. Licensed warehouses are established, in which liquors can be stored on arrival, the duty being paid on removal from the warehouse. The duty on all liquor imported and not stored in a licensed warehouse has to be paid on landing. These duties are collected by the spirit farmer. All fees for licenses under the Ordinance—for public houses, hetels, retail liquor-shops, and farm-shops—are paid to the Government.

The Prevention of Disease Ordinance was passed on the 18th June 1894, on the outbreak of "bubonic plague" in the south of Settlements. China and in Hong Kong. It gives the Governor in Council power to prevent the immigration of Chinese coolies from any named ports where any dangerous infectious or contagious disease has broken out, and, in accordance with its provisions, a proclamation was issued immediately after its passing, which had the effect of prohibiting immigration from the ports of Southern China, and remained in force until the plague ceased in September.

The Municipal Slaughter-house Ordinance gives to the Municipal Commissioners of each town, when they have provided a sufficient number of slaughter-houses in convenient places, the monopoly of slaughtering, within municipal limits, all animals intended for human food. The Ordinance is at present in

operation only in Singapore.

Under instructions from Her Majesty's Government, an Ordinance (No. XII.) was passed to abolish the registration of brothels and prostitutes, which had hitherto been supervised by the Chinese Protectorate with good effect.

REGISTRATION OF DEEDS.

10. This system of registration is very similar to that established in Yorkshire by the Imperial Acts known as the "Yorkshire Registries Acts, 1884 and 1885." It has now been in force in

Singapore since the year 1887.

One of the most important changes introduced by this mode of registration is the provision for the registration of deeds at full length, the person wishing to register a deed leaving at the registry, together with the original deed, a copy written on paper of the size prescribed by the rules, and these copies being subsequently bound up in volumes for future use.

The system has tended to shorten deeds relating to land, and one result has been the use of short statutory forms wherever

practicable.

The Ordinance came into operation in Penang in July 1894. The sub-division of land is already causing a good deal of trouble. and it will be necessary to provide for the registration of small parcels of land in order to make the Index of Lands the valuable guide which it is intended to be.

The fees collected in Singapore amounted to \$5,849.25, an increase of \$552.25 on the receipts of last year. The fees collected in Penang for the six months ending 31st December 1894

amour ed to \$3,489.25.

PUBLIC WORKS.

11. There is nothing calling for remark under this head. The work of the Department was confined to the maintenance of existing works and buildings.

STRAITS

STRAITS SETTLEMUNTS. 1894.

POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

12. During the year under review, 5,539,380 articles passed through the Postal Department of the Colony, as compared with 5,313,340 articles received and despatched in 1893. There was an unusually large increase in the correspondence received, but in each of the two years mentioned the number of articles despatched was about the same.

The postal revenue amounted to \$189,789, exceeding that of 1893 by \$51,467. This very large increase is due to the rates of postage having been raised by about 50 per cent. in March 1894. The total expenditure comes to \$149,497, being \$11,765 more than the year before. The revenue exceeded the expenditure by \$40,292.

The continued fall in the sterling value of the dollar has had an injurious effect on the money-order business throughout the year. There 36,312 transactions, amounting altogether to \$671,231, against 32,900 for \$572,791 in 1893. There was a decrease in business with all gold-using countries, but the local business and the operations with India, China and the Protected States in the Malay Peninsula showed improvement.

SAVINGS BANK.

13. The following statement gives the particulars of the business transacted by the branches at Singapore, Penang, and Malacca during the year:—

	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
New accounts opened	528	143	22
Accounts closed	476	108	33
Accounts open at the end of the year -	1,240	345	62
Deposited in 1894	\$ 112,796	\$ 34,235	\$ 6,704
Repaid in 1894	102,392	29,549	6,006
Balance due to depositors at close of 1894	171,267	50,060	9,362

The increase in the amount deposited during the year over that deposited in the previous year was \$12,687. The deposits during 1893 showed an increase over the figures for 1892 of \$1,282.

The total sum at the credit of depositors on the 31st December 1894 was \$230,689, and the aggregate amount lodged since the establishment of the Bank in 1877 proved to be \$1,341,813. Under Ordinance III. of 1891, the sum of \$111,575 has been invested in Government of India 4 per cent. Rupee Paper.

An Ordinance has been introduced to increase the limits of deposits from \$250 to \$500 in a year, and the aggregate from \$750 to \$1,500. Steps have been taken to reduce the interest to be allowed on deposits from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 per cent. from 1st July 1895, on account of the reduction in the interest on the Indian investments from 4 per cent. to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.
1894.

9

EDUCATION.

14. No change requiring special notice took place in this Department during the year, though certain reductions were decided upon towards the close of the year, which have since been carried out.

The number of schools inspected in 1894 and the number of pupils presented were slightly less than in 1893, viz., 234 schools, as against 236 in 1893, and 8,518 pupils presented, as against 8,581.

The total number of schools is composed as follows:-

Grant-in-aid Schools	(boys)	-	-	-	26
Do.	(girls)		-	-	11
Government English	Schools (boys)	-	-	8
Government Vernac	ular Schoo	ols (boys)			149
Do.		(girls)	-	-	27
Night Schools -		4	-	-	13
					004
					234

As regards English education, the Inspector of Schools says:—
"In this Colony there are special difficulties connected with
the teaching of English, as pupils who attend the schools consist
of so many nationalities. It is, of course, desirable that English
should be taught through the medium of the pupils' own language,
but, under the circumstances of our schools, this is impossible,
and, as a rule, Malay is chosen as the medium of instruction—a
language which, although known to some extent by most of the
pupils, is one with which many of the pupils are not thoroughly
acquainted.

"The English education of the Colony is almost entirely in the hands of missionary bodies or of committees over which Government has not direct control. That these bodies do their work most efficiently will, I think, be admitted. In spite of the difficulties to which reference has been made above, high percentages are obtained yearly by the principal schools, although the course of instruction extends over seven years only, and the tests of these annual examinations are more severe than those given in the case of board schools in England. This really means, that we expect from our pupils, to the majority of whom English is a foreign

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.
1894.

language, more rapid progress than is required from pupils in England studying their own language."

The attendance at the Government Vernacular Schools shows a considerable falling off, which has not been satisfactorily accounted for.

The gross expenditure for the year of the Education Department amounted to \$186,444, or 4.7 per cent. of the total revenue of the Colony. The principal items are the grants for results to the aided schools and the cost of the Government English and Vernacular Schools. The grants for results amount to about half of the total expenditure of the aided schools.

POPULATION.

15. The number of births registered in 1894 in all the Settlements was 12,690, of which 6,636 were those of male, and 6,054 those of female, children.

The deaths registered in 1894 numbered 17,234 as against 16,945 in 1893, or an increase of 289, the highest rate of mortality having been recorded at Penang. As in 1892 and 1893, the greatest number of deaths occurred among persons between the ages of 25 and 35.

The following table gives the number of births and deaths registered in each Settlement during the past two years:—

Settlement.		Bir	ths.	Deaths.			
bettiement.		1893.	1894.	1893.	1894.		
Singapore -	-15	3,332	3,327	6,776	6,216		
Dindings	-	110	128	95	111		
Penang	-	2,303	2,306	4,167	4,428		
Province Wellesley	-	3,487	3,578	2,956	3,654		
Malacca	-	3,156	3,351	2,951	2,825		
Total -	-	12,388	12,690	16,945	17,234		

The great preponderance of deaths over births is accounted for, as has been explained in previous reports, by the peculiarly constituted population of the Straits Settlements, less than a third of which, in consequence of the large amount of male Chinese and Tamil immigration, is female.

The present population may be roughly estimated at 535,000. Statistics relating to the health of the Settlements during the year will be found lower down under the heading "Public Health."

CHINESE AND INDIAN IMMIGRATION.

STRAITS 16. There was a marked decrease in the numbers of immigrants Settlements. from China and India during the year, as shown in the following table:-

			1893.	1894.
Chinese deck passengers		-	189,843	137,695
Chinese female immigrants	-		9,640	7,068
Contracts -		-	38,326	22,302
Indian statute immigrants		Mary of	2,106	1,688
Indian free immigrants		T-	15,877	13,155
Indian labour contracts		-	2,034	1,744

Chinese immigration to the Straits Settlements was practically closed for nearly five months in 1894, owing to the plague in Hong Kong, and to the action of the Government in prohibiting coolie immigration from Hong Kong and the treaty ports of China for nearly four months.

The decrease in the Indian figures is due to a smaller demand for labour (this in its turn being chiefly caused by the inferior class of labourers hitherto imported, the large per-centage of them unfit for agricultural labour, and the numerous desertions from the Province Wellesley estates) and to increase of passage rates and the diminished value of the dollar in relation to the rupee.

The Indian Immigation Agent, Mr. A. M. MacGregor, went to England on leave during the year, and retired in January 1895, and, owing to the necessity for economy, the appointment

will not again be filled.

TRADE.

17. The following tables give the value of the imports and exports at the three Settlements in 1894 and 1893 respectively:

Imports. Total. MERCHANDISE. United Kingdom, 1894 20,840,887 Do. 1893 15,461,375 British Possessions, 1894 -45,389,112 40,196,432 1893 -Foreign countries, 1894 107,101,149 1893 88,596,316 Do. Between the Settlements, 1894 9,354,881 8,191,114 Do. do. 1893 Total value of merchandise, 1894 182,686,029 152,445,237 Do. Do.

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.
1894.

Imports—continued.

							Total.
		TREAS	URE.				
Total value	of treasur	e. 1894	The same	-		-	41,465,263
Do.	do.	1893		-	-	-	17,170,811
Total impor	ts of mer	handise ar	nd treasu	re. 1894			224,151,292
Do.		lo.	do.	1893	-	-	169,616,048

Exports.

					Total.
Merchani	oise.				\$
United Kingdom, 1894 -					31,171,649
Do. 1893 -			-	-	29,970,401
British Possessions, 1894 -		-	-	-	19,978,151
Do. 1893 -			-	-	18,734,374
Foreien countries, 1894 -		-	-	-	98,622,480
Do. 1893 -			-		77,506,078
Between the Settlements, 1894			_		8,974,269
Do. do. 1893	•		-	-	8,326,079
Total value of merchandise, 1894		u kin	-		158,746,549
Do. do. 1893	-	•	- 1	-	134,536,932
TREASUR	E.				
Total value of treasure, 1894				21.	28,039,515
Do. do. 1893		-	1	-	19,618,050
Total exports of merchandise and	treasure	, 1894			186,786,064
Do. do. d	0.	1893	-	-	154,154,982

18. The trade of the year shows general expansion in nearly every important article of commerce, and the exports, upon which the commercial prosperity of the Colony depends, afford conclusive evidence of permanency and progress. Values and bulk have been well maintained, and a depreciation in the sterling value of the dollar has counterbalanced any fall in home quotations. Thus although tin had fallen in the London market by over 19½ per cent. compared with 1893, the difference in the average local price was inappreciable. In the imports into the Colony increases are apparent all round, but it is doubtful whether European importers have found the trade so remunerative as in past years, the enhanced dollar values operating in favour of restriction. The low sterling value of silver has encouraged eastern manufactures, and Japan in particular has become an influential power in the market, especially as regards the supplying of coal and cotton piece goods.

19. The Colony's total trade in merchandise reckoned in silver shows an increase of over 19½ per cent. with other countries

compared with 1893. On the import side the the increase is over 20 per cent. and over $18\frac{1}{2}$ per. cent on the export side. These increases are counterbalanced by a decline of nearly 18 per cent. in the average sterling exchange value of the dollar in 1894, compared with 1893.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1894.

The following are the totals for 1894 and 1893, deducting treasure:—

er vid a vido <u>ri</u> Koji da estilogi	E S			1894.	1893.
Value of imports	Y		-	\$ 182,686,029	\$ 152,445,237
alue of exports	•	•	-	158,746,549	134,536,932
Tota	1 -	1		341,432,578	286,982,169

Converting the above amounts into sterling shows —

				1894.	1893.
Value of imports	L			£ 19,217,966	£ 19,561,040
Value of exports	-	-	-	16,704,978	17,247,693
Total		•	.	35,922,944	36,808,733

There is thus an increase in the silver value of imports of \$30,240,792, and in the silver value of exports of \$24,209,617, an aggregate dollar increase of \$54,450,409, but a decrease in the gold value of imports of 343,074l., and in the gold value of exports of 542,715l., an aggregate decrease of 885,789l.

Singapore shows a dollar increase of over 23 per cent. in imports, and of nearly as much in exports, and this Settlement also has a small increase in both imports and exports when the trade has been converted into sterling. Penang imports increased by about $11\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in dollar value, and her exports by over 7 per cent., but in sterling values her trade shows a decrease on both sides.

20. Dealing with the trade of the Colony on its relation to countries, and taking dollar values only, it may be convenient to

point out the variations.

The United Kingdom imports of merchandise show an increase of nearly \$5,400,000. Of this increase, cotton goods account for nearly four and three-quarter millions, and coal for over three-quarters of a million. The exports to the United Kingdom show an increase of over \$1,200,000. Gutta-percha accounts for nearly this increase.

From British India and Burma the imports were valued at \$27,709,293, an increase of nearly \$5,335,000, of which opium contributed an increase of over \$1,800,000 and rice from Rangoon nearly \$2,900,000. The exports amounted to \$8,419,205, a

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 1894. decrease of \$585,000, caused largely by decreased exports of raw silk to Burma and black pepper and tin to Calcutta. From Netherlands India imports were valued at \$29,704,622, an increase of \$8,205,179 over the 1893 returns. The increases are in produce which the Dutch Indies supply. The exports valued \$31,480,844 an increase of \$5,324,809.

Turning now to the principal silver-standard countries with which the Colony trades, which are not so directly affected by sterling exchange, it is found that imports do not show nearly so large proportional increases as they do with gold countries, but that, on the other hand, the exports show enhanced proportional increases for silver countries, as the following table shows:—

(Exclusive of Treasure and Inter-Settlement Trade.)

	['00'	00 omitted.]		3	
	Gold (Countries.	Silver Countries.		
	1894.	1893,	1894.	1893.	
Imports	\$ 88,786	\$ 68,649	\$ 84,544 ,	\$ 75,605	
Exports	105,613	89,914	44,160	36,297	
Total	194,399	158,563	128,704	111,902	

The imports from Hong Kong and China amounted in 1894 to \$19,497,142 (Hong Kong \$16,205,126, China direct \$3,292,016), as against \$19,385,774 in 1893. The exports amounted to \$13,289,459, as against \$12,372,177 in 1893. Of the exports in 1894, Hong Kong received to the value of \$9,894,032, and China \$3,395,427. Japan trade shows steady progress—Imports in 1894 valued \$3,661,758, against \$2,204,425 in 1893, and \$857,791 in 1892. Exports valued \$774,970, compared with \$454,127 in 1893, and \$170,665 in 1892. The imports from the Malay Peninsula (including the Siamese States) amounted to \$41,496,190, as against \$34,422,613 in 1893, the increase resulting from the larger output of tin from the Protected States. The exports reached \$18,779,225, against \$14,979,724 in 1893.

21. The following table exhibits the increase and decrease in the export and import of certain commodities:—

Imports.

	1893.	1894.	Increase.	Decrease.
Cotton piece goods -	Pieces. 3,765,832	Pieces. 5,595,310	1,829,478	
Coal	Tons. 334,136	Tons. 438,737	104,601	-

Imports—continued.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1894.

15

		1893.	1894.	Increase.	Decrease.
Rice	-	Pikuls. 6,702,383	Pikuls. 7,020,671	318,288	
Opium	-	Chests. 15,397	Chests. 15,054	2-11	343
Silk piece goods -		Pieces. 390,514	Pieces. 238,549	<u></u>	151,965
Petroleum -	-	Cases. 1,028,516	Cases. 1,236,438	207,922	

Exports.

Sago -		-	Pikuls. 820,435	Pikuls. 751,830		68,605
Coffee -	4	-	50,764	83,973	33,209	
Gambier -		-	799,994	806,282	6,288	-
Gums -		-	178,532	179,241	709	_
Hides -	-	-	84,317	83,956	_	361
Spices		-	925,129	1,058,862	133,733	2 2
Tapioca -	-	-	631,020	649,662	18,642	_
Tin -	7.	-	739,743	865,792	126,049	
Copra -	-	-	484,381	958,179	473,798	
Rattans -		-	474,386	424,911		49,475

Cotton Goods.—The large increase is partly due to repletion of stocks, which were very low at the close of 1893, and to some extent also to increased demand. Yarns show heavy increases. From Japan and Hong Kong 578,702 pieces of cotton goods were received, as against 227,600 pieces in 1893, and from British India 369,021 pieces received, compared with 375,038 pieces in 1893.

Coal.—The feature of note in the imports of coal is the position now taken by Japan, which supplied 192,409 tons, compared with 187,025 tons from the United Kingdom. Australian imports show a falling off, but the supplies of Sarawak and Labuan coal rose enormously.

Rice.—The imports from Bangkok and Saigon fell off, but this was more than compensated for by the greater supplies from Burma.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1894. Opium.—In spite of the very high prices ruling during the year, the trade shows little or no diminution in bulk, and the demand from Siam and the Protected Native States was fully maintained. The exports amounted to 12,632 chests, against 12,501 chests in 1893.

Petroleum.—The increased importations are entirely from the Dutch Indies, the Langkat oil showing an increased import of nearly 500,000 cases. A large quantity of this oil finds its way to Siam, Saigon and the Netherlands Indies.

American oil imported fell by nearly 40,000 cases and Russian oil, which is largely imported in bulk, by nearly 240,000 cases,

compared with the imports in 1893.

Gambier.—The local price of gambier was, on the average, higher than in 1893, and a small increase in the quantity exported is recorded.

Gums.—The exports of gums have been well kept up. The important increases are in gutta-percha, gum copal, gum damar, sticklac and India-rubber. The only large decrease is in resin.

Spices.—Increased exports are seen in areca-nuts, cloves, white pepper, and cubebs. There is a trifling decrease in black pepper.

Tapioca.—There is a large increase in pearl tapioca exports, but decreases in the other two kinds. A total increase of 18,642 pikuls exported is recorded, when compared with the 1893 exports.

Copra.—A remarkable rise has taken place in the output of copra, showing nearly 98 per cent. of an increase over the exports of 1893.

Sago.—The decrease of 68,605 pikuls exported is entirely in sago flour, there being a small increase in pearl sago.

Tin.—The tin industry continues to prosper. The tin is received, both unsmelted and smelted, from the Protected States of the Malay Peninsula. The increased export over 1893 reached 126,049 pikuls.

The following table gives the exports in pikuls and tons for the last five years:—

1890	-	-		537,190	pikul	ls = 31,976	tons.
1891	-			605,829	,,	=36,061	99
1892	-	-	-	636,002	,,	=37,857	99
1893	-	-	-	739,743	,,	=44,032	,,
1894	-	-	-	865,792	,,	=51,535	,,

There were largely-increased exports to the United States and Holland.

SHIPPING.

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.
1894.

22. The following table shows the arrivals and departures of shipping in the Colony during 1893 and 1894:—

Steamers and Square-rigged Vessels.

			Total.
		No.	Tons.
Arrivals 1893 - '-	== 1	8,709	5,356,402
Do. 1894		8,567	5,534,761
Departures 1893	-	8,675	5,257,404
Do. 1894 -	-	8,548	5,220,260
Total 1893 -	-	17,384	10,613,806
Do. 1894	-	17,115	10,755,021

Native Craft and Steamers under 50 Tons.

			To	otal.
			No.	Tons.
Arrivals 1893		-	12,999	399,001
Do. 1894		1	12,971	391,614
Departures 1893	-	- 1	12,861	389,490
Do. 1894		-	13,035	398,507
Total 1893	-		25,860	788,491
Do. 1894	_		26,006	790,121

23. The number and tonnage of the new vessels built in the Colony in 1893 and 1894 is shown in the following table:—

				No.	Tonnaga.
893			-	66	4,003
894		1	1 2 2	77	5,232

o 88539.

Straits

24. The revenue (light dues and miscellaneous fees) collected Settlements. by the Marine Department in each Settlement during 1893 and 1894 appears in the subjoined table:—

	-			Singapore.		Penan	g.	Malac	ca.	Total.		
1893			-	\$ 85,695	c. 78	\$ 23,868	c. 92	\$ 2,325	c. 78	\$ 111,890	c. 48	
1894		-		88,624	07	25,092	69	2,354	94	116,071	70	

LIGHTHOUSES, &c.

25. The lighthouses, launches, buoys, and beacons were maintained in an efficient condition. A new lighthouse on the Sultan Shoal, near the western approach to Singapore Harbour, is in course of construction, and will be completed by the latter end of 1895.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

26. The general health of the Colony for 1894 has been fairly good, the mortality being 32.22 per mille.

Cases of small-pox occurred in all the Settlements, but were not numerous, except in the Northern Division of Province Wellesley, where the disease was prevalent to a considerable extent. The number of cases in Singapore was unusually small.

No cholera occurred during the year in any of the Settlements with the exception of one sporadic case in the Singapore Gaol.

Cases of beri-beri were somewhat less numerous, and the death rate was lower than usual.

Three cases of hydrophobia occurred, one in Singapore, the patient having been bitten in Sourabaya; and two in Malacca, from bites by stray dogs in the town.

Some apprehension was felt during the middle months of the year lest bubonic plague, which was then epidemic in Hongkong, should be introduced into these Settlements, and precautionary measures, including a nine days' quarantine of ships from Hong Kong, and careful inspection of all immigrants arriving, were taken. For some three months it was also considered advisable to stop immigration from China. Only one case of plague arrived here, and this was detected on arrival, and the patient removed to the quarantine station, where he made a slow recovery. Influenza was not prevalent during the year.

Appended are tables showing :-

- A Birth and death rates.
- B. Special death-rate (Racial).
- C. Deaths due to the more important specific infectious diseases.

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.
1894.

A.
Birth-rate.

Settleme				Ratio per Mille.						
Settleme	п.		1894.	1893.	1892.					
Singapore -	-		-	16.98	17.31	18.02				
Penang -	-	-	-	17.50	17.81	19.33				
Province Wellesley		-L	-	32.71	31.99	30.17				
Dindings -			-	34.29	29.76	28.76				
Malacca -	4.17		-	35.64	33.77	39.09				

A.

Death-rate.

			Ratio per Mille.						
Settle	ment.		1894.	1893.	1892.				
Singapore -	4,		31.72	35 · 21	30.45				
Penang		-	33.62	32.23	33.13				
Province Wellesley		-	33 · 40	27 · 12	30.43				
Dindings -	-	- 5	29.74	25.70	21.07				
Malacca -	_	-	30.04	31.57	30.14				

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.
1894.

B.

Special Death-rate (Racial).

	Е	uropeans	S	E	urasians	•		Chinese.			Malays.			Indians.		Na	Other ationalitie	es.
Settlement.]	Ratio per Mille.)	Ratio per Mille.			Ratio per Mille.			Ratio per Mille.]	Ratio per Mille.			Ratio per Mile.	r
	1894.	1893.	1892.	1894.	1893.	1892.	1894.	1893.	1892.	1894.	1893.	1892.	1894.	1893.	1892.	1894.	1893.	1892.
Singapore	12.24	13.20	14.84	20.21	27.25	20.89	33 38	36*34	30.73	31.33	35.95	33.03	28.25	32.23	29.62	37.23	47.61	32.09
Penang	19.79	20*14	17:27	18.81	26.43	32.16	38.02	35.30	35*38	26.70	23.58	21.90	31.97	38.11	34.19	59.44	43.91	66.04
Province Wellesley -	28.84	_	. - .	14.98	34.22	15.68	35.20	33.14	\$0.33	31.51	22.40	23.64	40.66	37.41	57:37	28.76	29.00	76.23
Dindings		-	-	_	_	_	39.66	29.47	34.33	28.23	21.28	18.79	11.07	48.70	-	-	100.00	_
Malacca	21.42	7.24	17.69	36.76	34.77	41.90	35.14	37.85	37.40	28.20	29.77	27.68	38.25	24.62	40.92	117:64	178* 0	68.48

C.

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.
1894.

Deaths due to the more important Specific Infectious Diseases.

	Small-po	x.		Cholera.			Beri-Beri.	
1894.	1893.	1892.	1894.	1993.	1892.	1894.	1893.	1892
165	338	277	1	62	7	377	461	382

27. The following table gives the number of patients treated in all Government hospitals, and of the deaths among them, during 1894, as compared with 1893 and 1892:—

	Number of Patients treated.			Num	ber of De	aths.	Per-centage of Deaths to Total treated.			
-	Europeans,	Asiatics.	Total.	Europeans.	Asiatics.	Total.	Europeans.	Asiatics.	Total.	
1894	710	22,060	22,770	37	2,388	2,425	5.51	10.82	10.65	
1893	910	22,589	23,499	37	2,297	2,334	4.06	10.16	9.92	
1892	809	21,822	22,631	31	2,220	2,251	3.83	10.17	9.94	

28. The numbers in the Leper Hospital, Singapore, and Leper Asylum, Penang, during 1892, 1893, and 1894, were as follows:—

		18	392.				1893.				1894.	
Hospitals.	Cases.	Died.	Discharged or absconded.	Remained.	Cases.	Died.	Discharged, absconded, or transferred.	Remained.	Cases.	Died.	Discharged, absconded, or transferred.	Remained.
Leper Hospital	165	33	100	32	101	28	45	28	114	22	51	41
Leper Asylum, Pulau Jerejak -	475	122	43	310	432	87	24	1	492	129	31	332

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.
1894.

METEOROLOGY.

29. The following statement shows the mean temperature of the air at each of the Settlements during the year:—

-	-		Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.
Singapore	•	\$ -	86.7	73.3	79.1
Penang -			88.6	74.0	79.8
Province Wellesley			93.5	73.0	81.2.
Malacca -	-	-	89.1	69.0	78.9

The following table shows the mean total rainfall at each of the Settlements, the maximum and minimum rainfall registered in one month, and the maximum in 24 hours:—

Settlement.	Total Rainfall.	Maximum Fall in one Month.	Minimum Fall in one Month.	Maximum Fall in 24 Hours.
Singapore	Inches. 81.24	Inches. Mar 17.53	Feb 0.60	Inches. Mar. 13 - 6.67
Penang	80.24	Oct 20.93	Jan 0.80	Oct. 12 - 5.63
Province Welles-	75.63	Oct 16.86	May - 0.89	Aug. 28 - 4.18
Dindings	75.09	Sept 10.19	April - 2.09	July 10 - 7:01
Malacca	91.24	Mar 34.42	Feb 0.05	April 29 10.42

BANKRUPTCY ORDINANCE.

30. The revenue and expenditure, as compared with the previous year, show a slight increase (\$14,732.30, as against \$13,664.56; and \$16,888.74, as against \$15,087.23, respectively, in Singapore). In Penang the expenditure exceeded the revenue by over \$4,000.

There has been a decrease in the number of failures which occurred in Singapore in 1894, but a marked increase in the liabilities and estimated loss to creditors as well as in the estimated value of the assets, so that it may be said that, while the number has considerably decreased, the individual importance of each failure has somewhat increased.

In Penang there has been a considerable decrease, both in the number of failures and in the liabilities and the estimated value of the assets.

Official statistics do not, however, give a correct view of the amount of insolvency in the Colony, as private settlements are Settlements. frequent and are much preferred both by creditors and debtors, by the former owing to the pecuniary advantages resulting from arrangements where there is no exposure of the dealings of the debtors, and by the latter as there is no public investigation into their commercial conduct.

STRAITS 1894.

REGISTRATION OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

31. Six joint stock companies, with a total capital of \$196,000. were registered during the year. Four of them are mining ventures, but it cannot be said that they represent any important operations.

One company went into voluntary liquidation.

POLICE AND CRIME.

32. In accordance with the recommendations of the retrenchment committee, the authorised strength of the police force was reduced during the year by three inspectors, 22 European constables, and 101 natives, and 14 stations were closed.

The Inspector-General of Police, Mr. R. W. Maxwell, retired on pension in July, and Lieut.-Colonel E. G. Pennefather, 6th (Inniskilling) Dragoons, was subsequently appointed in his

The Chinese contingent instituted in 1889, being found most unsatisfactory, was entirely done away with.

There were serious complaints of the conduct of some European inspectors and constables.

There were no serious disturbances during the year, but there

were 17 cases of murder and 19 of gang robbery.

The abolition of strict supervision of brothels has resulted, as was expected, in great activity amongst brothel bullies, and compulsory levies on the keepers and inmates are rife, but difficult

There is an immense sale of lottery tickets in Singapore, the lotteries being managed in Johor, agents from there pushing the sale in Singapore. It is said that as much as \$100,000 worth of tickets has been sold in one month.

JUDICIAL.

33. The following tables exhibit the work of the various courts, civil and criminal, of the Colony, viz.:—

The Supreme Court (Criminal side).

The Supreme Court (Civil side).

The Courts of two Magistrates (established in lieu of Courts of Quarter Sessions).

The Police and Marine Magistrates' Courts.

The Courts of Requests.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1894.

		N	18 o. of P	94. risoner	rs.	N	18 o. of P	93. risone	rs.
Supreme Court, Criminal Side.		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Total.	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca,	Total.
	Convicted	3	1	1	5	1	1	-	2
1. Culpable homicide	Cacquitted	-	1	-	1	_	3	_	3
2. Culpable homicide not	Convicted	1	-	-	1	-	4	1	5
amounting to murder -	Cacquitted	1	_	ř-,	1	1	_	1	2
	(convicted	1	1	-	2	1	2	-	3
3. Attempt to murder	Cacquitted	2	2	-	4	-	1	_	1
4. Voluntarily causing grievous	convicted	9	10	-	19	7	5	1	13
hurt	Cacquitted	3	2	1	6	1	2	2	5
W. T	Convicted	2	_	_	2	2	1	-	3
5. Unnatural offences	Cacquitted	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	_
6. Other offences against per-	Convicted	9	14	_	23	4	17	-	21
son -	Cacquitted	6	7	-	13	2	11	1	14
	Convicted	2	11	-	13	6	-	_	6
7. Gang robbery	acquitted	4	3	_	7	-	-	_	-
0 ml (/ l _ l _ l _ l _ l _ l _ l _ l	Convicted	67	29	5	101	15	54	3	72
8. Theft, housebreaking, &c	Cacquitted	5	15	1	21	6	22	-	28
9. Other offences against pro-	(convicted	13	16	-	29	17	26	1	44
perty	Cacquitted	13	11	1	25	3	22	1	26
75: 11	Convicted	17	21	1	39	10	14	1	25
10. Miscellaneous offences -	Cacquitted	6	9	1	16	11	15	3	29
Total	J convicted	124	103	7	234	63	124	7	194
Iotal -	Cacquitted	41	50	4	95	24	76	8	108
Grand total		165	153	11	329	87	200	15	302

			Civil Actions, 1894.								
Supreme Civil Si		Pending 31st Dec. 1893.	Com- menced.	Debt or Damages claimed.	Compromised, Dismissed, &c.	Adjudi- cated.	Pending 31 Dec. 1894.				
				\$							
Singapore -		350	1,091	1,230,568	104	581	355				
Penang -		461	874	1,348,522	284	421	404				
Malacca -	•	29	87	33,085	23	64	11				
Total -		840	2,052	2,612,175	411	1,066	770				

(continued.)

(continued.)

			Civil Actions, 1893.								
	e Court, Side.		Pending 31st Dec. 1892.	Com- mela ced.	Debt or Damages claimed.	Compromised, Dismissed, &c.	Adjudi- cated.	Pending 31st Dec. 1893.			
Singapore -			467	1,118	\$ 1,458,997	248	631	350			
Penang -			385	971	1,576,783	400	495	461			
Malacca -			46	81	34,658	53	45	29			
Total -		F.	918	2,170	3,070,438	701	1,171	840			

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1894.

Probate and Administration.

		1	894.	1	893.
		No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
Singapore		153	\$ 807,939	148	\$ 1,377,749
Penang -	-	614	1,156,593	527	1,392,526
Malacca -	-	38	15,058	46	191,927
Total		805	1,979,590	721	2,968,247

Courts of two Magistrates.

Return of Persons			1894.		1893.				
tried.		Convicted.	Acquitted.	Total.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Total.		
Singapore -		174	173	347	320	191	511		
Penang -		138	114	252	90	74	164		
Malacca -		12	7	19	15	2	17		
Total -		324	294	618	425	267	692		

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1894.

					1894.		
Police ar Magistrat Return o Char	es' Co	ourts.	Convicted and sentenced.	Dis-	Committed to the Assizes.	Cases pending 31st Dec. 1894.	Total.
Singapore -			11,498	6,691	194	185	18,568
Penang .			10,255	6,454	171	143	17,023
Malacca -			1,215	705	11	5	1,936
Total			22,968	13,850	376	333	37,527
					1893.		
Singapore -			11,832	4,718	97	65	16,712
Penang -			12,644	7,356	215	176	20,391
Malacca -			1,344	605	. 16	7	1,972
Total			25,820	12,679	328	248	39,075

		1894.	18	93.
Courts of Requests. (Jurisdiction up to \$50	Number o	Amount of Debt or Damages claimed.	Number of Cases.	Amount of Debt or Damages claimed.
Singapore - Penang Malacca	- 3,745 - 4,640 - 811	60,509	4,877 4,060 739	65,869 56,578 10,584
Total -	- 6,504	125,290	9,676	133,031

Inquests.

34. The following return shows the result of inquests held during the year in the three Settlements:—

	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Total.
Homicide, culpable -	13	7	_	20
" justifiable -	-		2	2
" by misadventure	-	4	_	4
Suicide Death in pursuance of	23	34	4	61
judicial sentence - Natural causes, accidental,	1	1	-	2
&c Found dead, causes un-	179	79	32	230
known, &c	32	27	7	66
Total	248	152	45	445

PRISONS.

the health of the prisoners was Settlements.

35. In Penang and Malacca the health of the prisoners was very good, in Singapore not so good as in former years. The following table gives the figures for the year:—

Settlemen	it.	Daily average inPrison.*	Daily average Sick.	Deaths.	Total Number treated.	Per-centage of Deaths to Total treated.	Mille of
Singapore -		865.00	48.70	46	1,122	4.0	53°10
Penang -		321.36	4.37	4	112	3.2	12.44
Malacca -		22.58	0.35	-	4		1577

^{*} Including Civil Prison.

One suicide and two escapes occurred in the Penang Prison: there were none in Singapore and Malacca. No serious cases of assault occurred in any of the prisons.

There was one execution at Penang in March, and one at Singapore in October.

The numbers in the criminal prisons on the 31st December 1894 were as follows:—

Singapore			-	-	807
Penang	-				303
Malacca	-	- 1	-	-	9

The daily average in the Singapore Prison was 68 less than in 1893, and 132 less than in 1892.

A most important step was taken by the Government during the year, viz., the banishment of habitual criminals (aliens) under the powers given by "The Banishment Ordinance, 1888." A list of the most notorious habitual criminals in the Singapore Prison was made out, and, as their sentences expired, they were banished. In this way 30 incorrigible scoundrels were got rid of from Singapore, and one (a professional gambler) from Penang.

The prices of some of the most important prison manufactures, which had formerly been almost prohibitive, were considerably reduced in 1894—in some cases by as much as 50 per cent. Notwithstanding the reduction, the value of articles sold during the year was only about \$5 less than in 1893.

Well-behaved prisoners of the upper grade were, for the first time, tried as sub-warders with satisfactory results. The staff of native sub-warders was reduced by 9 and a saving of \$864 per annum was effected.

During the year orders were given that prisoners with sentences of one year or less should be kept in Penang. Hitherto it had been the practice for all prisoners with sentences exceeding six months to be transferred to Singapore.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1894.

MISCELLANEOUS.

- 36. Lieutenant-Colonel Sir C. B. H. Mitchell, K.C.M.G., appointed Governor October 20th, 1893, arrived in the Colony and assumed the Government on 1st February 1894.
- 37. In order to render the Colony less absolutely dependent for current coin upon supplies of dollars from Mexico and Japan, a drawback pointed out in section 4 of the Report for 1893, sanction was received from the Secretary of State, in October, for introduction into the Straits and Hong Kong of a new British dollar identical in weight and fineness with the Japanese yen.
- 38. Advantage was taken of the termination of the existing opium and spirit farm contracts at the end of the year 1894 to introduce various amendments in the law dealing with the subject, as has already been pointed out under the heading of Legislation.

The re-letting of the farms for the triennial period 1895-97 resulted in a slight increase on the revenue for the preceding period, 1892-94, as follows:—

	-				1895–97.	1892–94.
					\$	\$
Singapore	-		-	-	1,416,000	1,368,000
Penang		4.	-		855,600	852,000
Malacca	-			-	159,000	144,000
To	otal -				2,430,600	2,364,000

Singapore, 22nd July 1895.

J. A. SWETTENHAM, Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 174.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894 see No. 141 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

August 1896.



LONDON:

PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE, BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,

PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

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1896.

[C.-7944.-26.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Cole	ony.				Year.
140	Barbados		- 1		Tie	1894
141	Turks and Caicos Islands		-		-	"
142	Malta		•	-		"
143	Gambia	-			-	"
144	Windward Islands -	-	•	-	-	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	-			-	"
146	Gibraltar	-				"
147	Falkland Islands -	-	-			"
148	Hong Kong -					"
149	Straits Settlements -	-		-	-	••
150	Lagos					,,,
151	Seychelles	-		-	-	"
152	Basutoland	-				1894-5
153	Fiji			-	-	1894
154	St. Helena -	-			-	"
155	Ceylon	-			-	,,,
156	Mauritius	-	4-1-			99
157	Labuan				-	"
158	Gold Coast -	-		-	-	"
159	British Guiana -	-				39
160	Sierra Leone -	-	10.00			,,
161	Jamaica	-	-			1894-5
162	British Honduras -		•		-	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	-		-1	_	1894-5
164	Newfoundland -	-			-	1894
165	Gambia -	-		-		"
166	Bermuda	-			-	"
167	Leeward Islands -	-			-	"
168	British New Guinea	-		-		1894-5
169	Zululand	- Ina	-			1895
170	Sierra Leone -		•			,,
171	Gibraltar -			-		"
172	Malta	5	4	24	-	"
173	Barbados	7 - x				"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony		Subject.
1	Gold Coast	and the second	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -		Forests.
2 3	Sierra Leone	Talled Marie	Geology and Botany.
4	101		Emigration.
5	Bahamas -	-	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong		Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland		Mineral Resources.

No. 174.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

TUBES AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 141.)

Sir H. A. BLAKE to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

King's House, Jamaica, June 18, 1896.

June 18, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you a copy of the Blue Book of the Turks and Caicos Islands for the year 1895, together with the Commissioner's Report thereon.

I have, &c.
HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1895.

1. Taxes Duties, &c.

There is no alteration to report under this head.

2. Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue collected in 1895 was 7,312l., as compared with 8,840l. in 1894, and fell short of the estimate by 150l.

The deficiency is to be explained by the small export of salt, due to unusually small shipments at Grand Turk and other contributing causes, the proceeds from royalty and light dues on vessels entering being 1,882l. and 548l. respectively, against 3,087l. and 950l. in the previous year, which was, however, an exceptional one.

The balance carried forward from 1894 was 2,775l., giving a

gross revenue of 10,087l.

The total expenditure amounted to 7,547l., being larger by 88l. than the sum expended in 1894. Of this amount, 6,849l. was ordinary expenditure, against 7,127l. in 1894, and 698l. was for works and services of a special nature, the sum so spent in 1894 having been 332l.

The revenue collected within the year was less by 235l. than the total expenditure within the same period, and the balance to carry forward to 1896 was consequently reduced. The sum so

o 93020. Wt. 20348.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1895. carried forward was 2,540l., and the Dependency has to its credit a further sum of 2,000l. invested, making a total credit balance of 4,540l.

3. Assets and Liabilities.

There was a balance of assets over liabilities on the 31st of December 1895 of 4,540l. 7s. 5d.

4. Public Debt.

The Dependency has no public debt.

5. Municipalities.

There are local boards, established by various legislative enactments, to deal with the following subjects, namely, health, quarantine, prisons, pilotage, salt ponds, education, and medical relief.

6. Public Works

There was much quiet but useful general work done during 1895, at a cost of 646l., which covers a stock of lumber, cement, paint, &c., remaining on hand. I am glad to report that, after the present year, the work of bringing into a state of proper repair and efficiency the various public buildings and other property of the Government will be fairly complete, when expenditure will return to its more normal level.

In addition to the above, the following works of a special

nature were undertaken:-

Clearance of bush and weeds and opening up of roads in the south-east suburbs of Grand	£	8.	d.
Turk, inhabited chiefly by the labouring class.	116	18	4
Breakwater, Salt Cay	264		9
Enlargement of public offices, Cockburn Harbour	162	2	8
Survey of township, Cockburn Harbour -	154	10	2

7. Legislation.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year:—

No. 1.—The Annual Appropriation Ordinance.

No. 2.—The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance.

No. 3.—The Library (Trustees) Ordinance.

No. 4.—The Salt Pond Ordinances, Further Continuance Ordinance.

No. 5.—The Towns and Public Health Ordinance. No. 6.—The Annual Appropriation Ordinance, 1896.

The Towns and Public Health Ordinance is an important enactment; it makes provision for dealing with nuisances and other matters of a kindred nature which found no place in the old Health Act, and also consolidates and amends the law as to slaughter yards and public markets. The much-needed work of general revision of the existing statutes has been unfortunately greatly retarded by the untimely death of the late Judge Cleaver.

8. Legislative Board.

Mr. W. E. Cleaver, who was, as judge of the Supreme Court, an ex-officio member of the Board, died on the 15th January, the vacancy thus created remaining unfilled until the arrival in May of the newly-appointed judge, Mr. J. B. Walker.

The Board and the Dependency generally also suffered another substantial loss by the death of Mr. Jeremiah D. Murphy, who had been a member since 1879, and was much esteemed, His place was filled by the appointment of Mr. Alfred Stubbs, of Cockburn Harbour.

9. Civil Establishment.

Mr. E. J. Cameron, Commissioner, was absent on vacation leave from the 23rd October to the 3rd December, his duties being performed during that period by the Judge of the Supreme Court.

Mr. W. E. Cleaver, who succeeded the late Mr. Johnson in the office of Judge in December 1893, died on the 15th January of Mr. Cameron acted as Judge until the end of May, when Mr. John Bayldon Walker, Police Magistrate of Sierra Leone, who was appointed to fill Mr. Cleaver's place, arrived in the Dependency and took up his duties.

Dr. A. W. Thompson, Government Medical Officer, resigned that post on 1st May, and was succeeded by Dr. L. O. Crosswell.

10. Pensions.

There was no change in the pension list during the year. The total sum paid in pensions was 519l. 5s.

11. Foreign Consuls.

The following countries are represented: United States of America. Sweden and Norway. Denmark. France. Spain. Dominican Republic. Haytian Republic.

12. Population and Vital Statistics.

The population of the Dependency, according to the returns sent in, continues to increase, the births being nearly 50 per cent. more than the deaths. The increase is largest in the Caicos Islands. 1895 was a healthy year, with low death rate.

13. Education.

There has been satisfactory progress made in educational matters during the year, and the tone of the school at Grand Turk especially has been greatly improved since the advent of a specially selected teacher from Jamaica, who assumed his duties in January.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1895.

5

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, 1895.

14. Imports and Exports.

The year's revenue from import duties is an average one, and presents no special features for remark.

The export of salt was the smallest of any year since 1888, being only 1,290,388 bushels, against 2,116,779 in 1894, the latter being the largest on record, while the average for the last 10 years is 1,653,004.

The falling off was mainly confined to Grand Turk, and is attributable almost entirely to what was practically the cessation of the fishery salt trade with Newfoundland, presumably consequent on the financial disarrangement in that Colony.

This trade has been latterly the stand-by of Grand Turk. The number of bushels shipped in the years 1893 and 1894 was 46,000 and 480,000 respectively, whereas last year it dropped to 72,000, with the result of leaving almost the whole of the year's crop on hand. I am glad to say, however, that there has been a rapid revival and that the shipments for the present year are already 120,000 bushels.

The export of sisal or Bahama hemp is gradually on the increase, the value declared for 1895 being 620l. With the additional and improved machinery recently put up by each of the two companies engaged in this business, the output will probably be much larger.

Comparative tables showing the trade and other statistics of the Dependency are attached.

	189	3.		18	94.		189	95.	
Value of imports -	£ 24,888	s. 4	d. 6	£ 28,525	s. 14	d. 10	£ 26,734	s. 18	d. 0
Import duties collected	2,886	4	5	3,173	14	9	2,958	13	2

VALUE of EXPORTS of DOMESTIC PRODUCE and MANUFACTURES in the Years 1893, 1894, and 1895.

				1893.		1894.		189	95.	
Salt -	•			£ s. 22,410 19	d. 5	£ s 29,686 10	. d. 3	£ 19,432	s. 5	d. 8
Sponge -	-		-	618 2	8	217 11	8	552	5	5
Bahama hemp	-	-		_		419 13	2	620	6	10
Salt fish .	-			19 8	0	_		69	0	0
Turtle shell	-	• 10		175 14	6	62 2	0	150	0	0
Total			•	23,224 4	7	30,385 17	1	20,823	17	11

VALUE of IMPORTS and EXPORTS from and to each country for the Years 1893, 1894, and 1895.

TURKS
AND CAICOR
ISLANDS.
1895.

Imports.

		189	93.		18	94.		18	95.	
United Kingdom -		£ 4,116		d. 10	£ 3,666			£ 3,317	s. 12	d. 2
British North America -	•	1,112	18	10	1,126	12	8	1,777	7	6
British Colonies -	•	1,507	10	0	1,973	14	6	1,423	2	8
United States of America	-	15,645	13	0	18,408	2	1	18,103	9	8
Other Foreign Countries	-	2,505	16	10	3,350	11	7	2,113	6	0
Total -	-	24,888	4	6	28,525	14	10	26,734	18	0

Exports.

			189	93.		18	94.	4	18	95.	
United Kingdom			£	s.	d.	£_	s.	d.	£ 24		d. 10
British North America	-	-	7,724	2	1	8,697	13	5	1,571	19	11
British Colonies		-	105	2	5	132	10	6	235	6	11
United States of America	ca	-	14,513	12	8	20,933	6	1	17,908	10	5
Other Foreign Countries	s		1,022	17	5	3,010	15	10	1,947	2	7
Total	-	-	23,365	14	7	32,774	5	10	21,687	17	8

AVERAGE QUANTITY of SALT exported from each Port for the Seven Years 1887 to 1893, and actual Export for 1894 and 1895.

Ports.		1887–93.	1894.	1895.
		Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Grand Turk -		616,833	735,353	202,358
Salt Cay -		438,978	446,054	312,466
Cockburn Harbour	· 101 :	591,546	935,372	775,564
Total -	State of the	1,647,357	2,116,779	1,290,388

TURKS	Salt in	the	Colony on	31st	December	1892	-	640,000	bushels
AND CAIJOS ISLANDS.		99	,,		,,	1893	-	700,000	99
1895.		27	,,,		99			130,000	29
		99	,,		.99	1895	-	490,000	99

15. Shipping

The total number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared for the last three years is shown below:—

Sailing Vessels.

		Ente	red.	Clean	red.	Tot	al.
		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1893 -		341	43,291	350	43,979	691	87,270
1894 -	-	311	55,030	320	54,215	631	109,245
1895 -		249	31,694	252	31,744	501	63,438

Steamers.

		Ente	red.	Clea	red.	Total.		
		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels,	Tons.	
1893 -	-	63	68,103	63	68,103	126	136,206	
1894 -	-	62	71,185	62	71,185	124	142,370	
1895 -	-	66	88,343	66	88,343	132	176,686	

Total British and Foreign.

		1894.			1895.	
	Sailing.	Steam.	Total.	Sailing.	Steam.	Total.
British -	51,071	24,672	75,743	17,516	23,644	41,160
Foreign -	58,174	117,698	175,872	45,922	153,042	198,964
Total	109,245	142,370	251,615	63,438	176,686	240,124

Her Majesty's ship "Mohawk" called in for an hour in the month of October. There were no other visits from men-of-war.

16. Grants of Land.

A qualified surveyor from Jamaica was engaged for three months in laying out an extension of the township of Cockburn Harbour and making a complete re-survey of the old town and

neighbourhood, thus enabling a large number of house and plantation lots to be sold by the Crown and settling many vexed questions of boundaries. Owing to the somewhat strange pro visions of the existing law, which allows a period of 18 months for the payment of the purchase money of Crown land, however small the sum may be, it will be some further time before grants for these lots are issued and the transactions finally settled.

Unfortunately the term of the surveyor's employment did not permit of any regular survey work in the outer Caicos. There is great need for this, and arrangements are now under consideration

for meeting the want.

A new Ordinance will be passed during the present year, which I hope will render the dealing with Crown lands in the Dependency a little less difficult than it has hitherto been.

17. Gaols and Prisoners.

The total number of persons committed during 1895 was 21, of whom 4 were for safe keeping and 17 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The daily average in the gaol was four.

18. Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1895 was 193, against 188 in 1894.

Of the offences reported in 1895:—

61 were for offences against the person

3 ,, prædial larceny.

37 ,, offences against property other than prædial larceny.

92 ,, other offences.

The total number of convictions in the inferior courts in 1895 was 132, against 115 in 1894.

These convictions are classified as follows:-

31 for offences against the person.

1 for prædial larceny.

21 for offences against property other than prædial larceny.

79 for other offences.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows:-

1 for offences against the person.

3 ,, property

The acquittals were as follows:-

In the inferior courts
In the Supreme Court
- - - 6

and three cases in which a nolle prosequi was entered.

o 93020.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1895. TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1895.

19. Hospitals and Asylums.

There is no hospital or asylum. Cases of lunacy are very rare, but, when occurring, the patient is placed in gaol, under medical supervision, and, if necessary, ultimately sent to the asylum at Jamaica.

20. Meteorological Observations.

There is nothing unusual to record under this head.

The rainfall was not above the average, though somewhat unsuitably distributed for salt interests, and there was, I am glad to say, no hurricane or threatening of one to cause anxiety.

Tables of temperature and rainfall are appended.

				Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.
January				79	74	76
February	-	-	-	80	74	77
March -		-	7 1	80	75	78
April -	-	-	-	82	77	80
May -	-	-	-	84	80	81
June -	-	-	-	85	82	83
July -			-	86	83	84
August -	-	-	-	86	82	85
September		-	-	86	82	84
October -			-	86	83	84
November	-	-	-	84	79	82
December		-	-	80	74	77

RAINFALL for the Year 1895 compared with the average for the previous Seven Years.

Mon	th.		Grand Turk.	Salt Cay.	Cockburn Harbour.	Kew.
January -			1.95	2.15	•38	1.91
February	-		.03	•66	·12	1.48
March -	-	-	.69	•15		_
April -	-	-	2.71	1.25	•53	2.96
May -		-	4.89	2.32	3.24	-
June -	1	-		.17	•11	.83
July -	-	-	•88	•57	•69	.71
August -	-	-	3.73	1.81	2.69	4.05
September	-	- a	2.17	3.59	2.34	3.91
October -	-	-	•92	1.97	•50	1.66
November		-	3.79	3.31	3.22	4.68
December	-	-	1.62	3'56	1.77	1.91
Total Inch	es -		23·37	21.51	15.59	24:10
Average for a	even y	ears,				
1886 to 189	2 -	-	25.34	23.08	21.76	38.57

21. Savings Banks.

The Government Savings Bank was opened in 1890. The attached statement shows its condition at the present time:—

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1895.

Bank.		of sitors.		1	Depo	sited	l			V	itho	lrawı	n.				Го с	redit		
	1894.	1895.	1	894		1	895	•		189	4.	1	895.		1	894		1	895	5.
Grand Turk	68	73	£ 338	s. 9	$\frac{d}{6}$	£ 268	s. 7	d. 8	£ 145	s. 0	d. 3	£ 215	s. 2	d. 5	607	s. 4	d. 5	£ 660		d. 8
Salt Cay - Cockburn	33	45	39	13	0	83	1	10	36	8	10	95	8	0	70	15	1	58	8	11
Harbour -	20	26	55	5	6	77	12	4	54	11	1	66	1	7	261	2	4	272	13	1
Total -	121	144	433	8	0	429	1	10	236	0	2	376	12	0	939	1	10	991	11	8

22. Post Office.

The Post Office revenue for the year was 1991. 18s. 11d. In this sum there is included, as far as sales of stamps are concerned, only the value of stamps sold over the counter and more or less all for postal purposes.

The money derived from supplying the increasing demands of dealers and others abroad is brought to account under the head of

Miscellaneous, and amounts to an appreciable sum.

A direct parcel post with Bermuda was established during the year, and negotiations entered into for the establishment of a direct money order exchange with the other West Indies, through the medium of Jamaica, instead of by the roundabout system through the General Post Office, London.

Messrs. Pickford and Black's steamer from Halifax and the Clyde line steamers from New York continued to run throughout

the year.

23. General Remarks.

The year 1895 was an uneventful one.

The shipments of salt were small, for the reasons already given, but the price continued steady at not less than 7 cents a bushel, a great improvement on the past few years. A large stock has been brought over to 1896, and, with the revival in the Newfoundland fishery salt trade and what appears to be a moderately brisk demand otherwise, prospects are fair. It is to be regretted that, in disposing of their salt, the bulk of the producers are so entirely confined to the United States market, a market which can apparently take only so limited a quantity of the article.

The progress of the fibre industry has already been referred to.

There are no other matters calling for special remark.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,

Grand Turk, May 14, 1896.

Commissioner.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 169.

ZULULAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 137 of this Series)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

June 1896.



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1896.

[C.—7944.-21.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

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ANNUAL.

	ANI	OA	ш.		ì	
No.	Colony					Year.
133	British Guiana -	-		-	-	1893-4
134	Jamaica	-		-	-	,,
135	Newfoundland -	-	-		-	1893
136	Gold Coast -	-	•	-	-	"
137	Zululand	-	•	•	-	1894
138	Bermuda	•		-		"
139	Bahamas	•				"
140	Barbados	-				22
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	-				"
142	Malta	-	-	-	-	59
143	Gambia	-	-		•	"
144	Windward Islands -	-	-	-	-	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	-		-	-	"
146	Gibraltar	•		LATIS:	-	,,
147	Falkland Islands -	-			-	99
148	Hong Kong -	-		-		"
149	Straits Settlements	-		-		"
150	Lagos	7 7				99
151	Seychelles -	-	ALL TO LAKE		wint.	7,004 =
152	Basutoland -	Francis		-	-	1894-5
153	Fiji	•		-		1894
154	St. Helena-	-		-	-	"
155	Ceylon -	-			-	"
156	Mauritius -	-		-	-	>>
157	Labuan	-	-		-	"
158	Gold Coast -	-		~	-	"
159	British Guiana -	-			-	>>
160	Sierra Leone -	-		-		"
161	Jamaica	-				1894–95
162	British Honduras -	-			•	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	- 1		-	-	1894-95
164	Newfoundland -	-		-	-	1894
165	Gambia	-	The Texas.	-	-	"
166	Bermuda -	-	•	-	-	"
167	Leeward Islands -	-	* -	-	-	1894
168	British New Guinea			•		1894-5

MISCELLANEOUS.

Vo.	Colo	ay.		Subject.
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand			Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	10	-	Geologoy and Botany.
4	Canada -	-		Emigration.
5	Bahamas -		-	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong		-	Bubonic Plague.

No. 169.

ZULULAND. 1895.

ZULULAND.

[For Report for 1894 see No. 137.]

Sir W. F. HELY-HUTCHINSON to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Pietermaritzburg, Natal, May 1, 1896.

SIR,

I FORWARD the Zululand Blue Book returns for 1895,

and the Resident Commissioner's report thereon.

2. Owing to drought, locusts, and the fear of rinderpest, the outlook is far less encouraging at present than it has been for some years. I have approved of the Resident Commissioner's suggestion to stop all expenditure on public works which is not of an urgent character: and precautions have been taken to meet any scarcity which may arise. It will be observed that this matter has the Resident Commissioner's special attention.

I have, &c.

WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON.

REPORT by the RESIDENT COMMISSIONER on the BLUE BOOK for 1895.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The actual cash balance to credit of the Treasury was, on the 1st January 1895, as follows:—

In treasury - Invested and on deposit		-	£ 13,595 24,657	s. 16 0	d. 5 0
Tot	tal	de di	38,252	16	5

On the 1st January 1896 it stood as follows:-

				£	s.	d.
In treasury		-	Marie II	3,000	18	5
Invested and on	deposit	-	-	21,657	0	0
	Tot	al	-	24,657	18	5

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ZULULAND. 1895. The revenue for 1895 was 51,746l. 18s. 8d., an increase of 6,154l. 1s. 8d. over the revenue received during 1894 and 4,459l. 18s. 8d. more than the estimate.

The chief increases were under "Hut Tax," the main source of revenue which increases year by year, owing to influx into Zululand of natives from surrounding territories, and under the

heads "Gold Fields" and "Licenses."

The expenditure was exceptionally heavy in 1895, as compared with previous years. In 1895 it is shown to be 66,172l. 7s. 9d., an increase over 1894 of 22,248l. 9s. 11d. and an excess over the revenue for the year of 14,425l. 9s. 1d. Of the amount of this excess, however, 11,326l. 11s. 6d. was extraordinary and unforeseen expenditure, 4,908l. 18s. 6d. alone having been paid in connexion with the expedition to Sambana's and Umbegeza's and the widow Umhlalini's territories and the annexation of the strip of country occupied by them, and 2,486l. 18s. 9d. on the establishment of the magistracy there, in what is now the Ingwavuma district of Zululand.

1,435l. 11s. 10d. was expended in the purchase of dynamite for

issue on repayment to assist the mining operations.

7821. 3s. 5d. on famine relief and 843l. extraordinary expenses

connected with the Zulu prisoners at St. Helena.

7,6911. 16s. 8d. was expended on extending the telegraphs and other public works, the charges in connection therewith being met out of accumulated surplus funds, investments by the Crown Agents being realized for this purpose.

The revenue exceeded the ordinary expenditure by more than

4,500%.

Owing to the charges above specified, the excess of assets over liabilities was reduced from 39,037l. 16s. 1d. on 1st January, to 24,612l. 7s. on the 31st December, 1895.

There is no public debt.

Public Works.

The expenditure in public works and surveys in 1895 was more than double that of 1894. The extension of the telegraph from Eshowe to Melmoth and from Dundee, Natal, to the Nondweni Gold Fields was undertaken, that portion of the latter line from Dundee to Vaut's Drift on the Zululand border being constructed at the expense of the Natal Government. The former line, about 22 miles in length, was completed and opened on the 13th August, and the latter, about 37 miles in length, on the 19th November.

The cost of construction was from 53l. to 55l. per mile.

Useful survey work was carried out for topographical purposes in several of the districts, including the new district of Ingwavuma.

The new buildings included (1) the magisterial offices of the Nauta District, which have been erected in a more centras

position of the district and 12 miles from the Nondweni Gold Fields, with which telephone communication is established; the old site of the Magistracy was at Rorkes Drift, on the Natal border; (2) offices, court room, &c., for the district of Ingwavuma, and(3) a school at Eshowe.

ZULULAND 1895.

The new gaol at Eshowe, plans of which have been approved by the Secretary of State, was also commenced towards the end of the year.

New roads were made between Eshowe and the Lower Umfolozi Magistracy (New Site), and between Nondweni and Vaut's Drift on the Natal boundary.

Legislation.

Fifteen Proclamations were issued in 1895, including proclamations (1) annexing the territories bounded south and east by the Pongolo Rivers and north by Maputa or Usutu River, and west by Swazieland, to Her Majesty's Dominions, and (2) amend-

ing and better defining the boundaries of Zululand.

By Government Notice No. 16, 1895, dated 11th June, a British Protectorate was declared over the territory of Amatongaland (also called Amaputaland, and Tembeland), bounded on the north by the southern boundary of Portuguese territory; and his Excellency the Governor of Zululand was, by Commission under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, appointed Special Commissioner over the Protectorate, except as regards matters affecting the adjacent Portuguese Possessions, and the South African Republic.

Establishment.

In consequence of the death of John Dunn, one of the 13 Chiefs appointed under General Wolseley's settlement of 1879 and who held the position of Chief over a large ward in the lower portion of Eshowe district, it became necessary in September last to appoint an assistant Resident Magistrate for that locality. The management of these people is entrusted to four of the late Chief's principal indunas or headmen, under the supervision of the Assistant Magistrate.

By proclamations Nos. IX. and XIII. the territories occupied by the Chiefs Sambana and Umbegesa and the widow Umhlaliri were declared to be annexed to Her Majesty's Dominions and to be incorporated with Zululand. In July a magistrate and staff was appointed for this district (Ingwavuma), which is estimated by survey to contain about 668 square miles. A police station has been established at Gwaliwene, about 12 miles from the seat

of magistracy.

Population.

The European population is estimated at 819 males and 427 females, an increase in the former of 180 and in the latter of 72,

ZULULAND. 1895. as compared with the previous year, due chiefly to the increase in the number of persons employed in mining and prospecting.

In the case of the native population the basis of calculation is the same as in 1894, viz:—the number of huts on which current taxes were paid, each hut being estimated to contain 3.3 souls (1.45 male and 1.9 female). The figures can only be taken as approximate. The total native population is shown as 197,865 as compared with 166,115 in 1894. The increase is to be mainly accounted for by the inclusion in Zululand of the territories of Sambana and Umbegesa. This new district is estimated to contain 23,538 natives. The huts in the district, however, have not been counted yet.

The figures are based on the assumption that the hut tax to be

collected during the present year will amount to 5,000l.

Education.

Europeans.—There are only two schools for European children in Zululand. The one at Eshowe under the Bishop of Zululand (which is provided with a school house by the Government free of rent) and one at the Nondweni Gold Fields.

The proposal for a school at Melmoth, the seat of magistracy of Entonjaneni district fell through, the farmers in "Proviso B"

being evidently apathetic on the subject of education.

An education committee for the district has, however, at length, been elected, the Magistrate being chairman, and it has been decided as a temporary measure to adopt the Natal system of grants in aid for farm schools, and when the necessary funds are available to build a central school for the district at Melmoth.

Native Schools.—The total average attendance at the Native

mission schools was: boys, 263; girls, 414.

Grants in aid of native schools were made as follows to the various missionary bodies, viz.:—

English Church of South Africa 200 Do. Industrial School (printing and book-
Do Industrial School (printing and cook.
Do. Industrial
binding), Eshowe 36
Norwagian Missionary Society 50
Do. Industrial School, Eshowe (waggon
making and carpentering) 50
Swedish Mission Society
Norwegian Church established by Schreuder - 35

The schools were inspected during the year by the Resident Magistrates of the districts, who are the appointed inspectors, and were found, on the whole, to be satisfactory as mission schools.

A Roman Catholic mission station and school was established at the late Chief John Dunn's residence at Moyene.

Stock, Crops, &c.

With the exception of the low-lying parts of Umfolozi, Hlabisa, Ubombo, and Ingwavuma districts, where "horse-sickness" and

599

the disease known as "nagana" are deadly for horses and cattle, especially in the summer months, stock throve in Zululand in 1895.

Cases of lung sickness occurred in Nkandhla and Nqutu districts, but due precautions were taken and the disease was

prevented from spreading.

Surgeon-Major Bruce, A.M.S., continued his investigations during the year of the "Tsetse Fly" and of the "Nagana" disease, and submitted a preliminary report on the subject in December

last; his final report has not yet been received.

Though the acreage of land under cultivation by the natives was probably more in 1895 than in 1894, the yield was considerably less. The crops reaped by the natives in the early part of 1895 were much below the average in almost every district, owing to the very heavy rainfall and the damage caused by the locusts, swarms of which destructive insects traversed Zululand throughout the year. There was, in consequence, a scarcity of food amongst Natives towards the end of the year, when the price of grain rose considerably, mealies selling in some cases as high as

21. per bag of 200 lbs.

I regret to say that a greater and more serious scarcity is anticipated during the present year (1896). The planting season of 1895-96 was exceptionally dry, and the natives were in many parts of the country unable to plant on account of the drought. Where good crops could be raised they were attacked, and often entirely demolished, by the locusts. This applies to all the districts excepting the Nqutu, the highlands of Nkandhla, and Ingwavuma districts, where fairly good yields are expected. As few of the traders are in a position to import grain in any quantity, the Government decided to distribute supplies to the districts in which the food was scarcest, and where the traders had taken insufficient or no measures to meet the demand, for issue to natives on payment of cost price. This action on the part of the Government has had the effect of keeping the price of grain within reasonable bounds, and of preventing exorbitant prices being generally realised.

The price of grain is still high, and likely to remain so, notwithstanding that large supplies of grain are being imported from America to meet the general short-fall in the crop in South Africa.

A special report was called for from the Magistrates with regard to the probable food supply, and, as far as can be judged, the natives for the most part have money and cattle to enable them to

buy food until next season's crops can be reaped.

Numbers have left the territory to obtain work at the Gold Fields of the South African Republic, where very high wages are paid for labour in the mines and elsewhere. Supplies of mealies will continue to be forwarded where most urgently needed during the coming winter.

No cases of actual destitution or starvation have come under my notice, but it may possibly, later on, be found necessary to

issue food free of charge in certain isolated cases.

ZULULAND. 1895. ZULULAND. 1895.

Mines.

In order to more effectually carry out the Mining Law it was found advisable to appoint a Commissioner of Mines as provided for in that law. Mr. J. J. Garrard, A.M.I.C.E., who formerly held the appointment of Deputy Commissioner of Mines for Nondweni, was appointed to act as Commissioner of Mines, and in addition a Deputy Commissioner for Nondweni was appointed (who will also be in charge of the Government Assay Office about to be established, the want of which has been much felt). An Acting Deputy Commissioner of Mines for Nkandhla has also been found necessary.

An exhaustive report has been prepared by the Acting Commissioner of Mines on the mining industry for 1895. This industry, he now considers, stands on a much surer footing than heretofore. His report, dealing with the several gold and coal fields in detail, will be published for general information.

Renewed interest and activity was shown in gold mining in Zululand in 1895 and more development work took place than in 1894, as will be seen from the following figures turnished by the Acting Commissioner of Mines:—

	1894.	1895.
Prospecting licences in force on 31st	297	498
December		
Prospecting areas registered 31st December -	252	465
Mining leases granted	3	13
Europeans engage? rospecting and		
mining -	13	264
Natives engaged in prospecting vad mining -	370	1,115
Mining revenue, all sources	£867	£2,682

The most important companies formed for the development of properties were the "Zululand Exploration Company" and the "Exploration Company, Limited, of Zululand" (both Johannesburg companies). Three companies were floated:—

(1.) The "Durban Enterprise" Gold Mining Company, with capital of 125,000l. (working capital of 25,000l.).

(2.) The "New Sisters Gold Mining Company," capital 85,000l. (working capital 15,000l.).

(3.) The "Gold Fields of Zululand Company," 73,000l. (working capital 12,500l.).

These companies have been actively engaged in developing

their properties during the year.

The gold won was insignificant in 1895, amounting only to 268 ozs., 520 ozs. less than the previous year's output; but, though this decrease is shown, the Acting Commissioner of Mines reports that considerable progress was made to provide for a future yield, as evinced by the increase in revenue from gold fields in spite of the decrease in receipts from royalty.

The Acting Commissioner of Mines accounts for the decrease by the facts (1) that the 10-stamp battery of the old "Enterprise" Syndicate at Nondwene, which turned out 413\frac{3}{4} oz. in 1894, was shut down as soon as the New Company took over the propertydevelopment pure and simple and the erection of a new 40-stamp battery being alone proceeded with for the remainder of the year 1895; and (2) that the work done at the "Harewood Mine" in Entonjaneni district, which produced 336 ozs. from its 5-stamp battery in 1894, was also almost entirely confined to developments.

The total amount of work hitherto done on gold fields in Zululand is estimated by the Acting Commissioner of Mines

approximately as follows:—

Sinking 10,000 feet Driving 16,500 " Surface cutting -

- 1,200,000 cubic feet

at a probable cost of 75,000l., or, including cost of machinery,

probably not less than 100,000l.

With regard to this the Acting Commissioner of Mines states, "It is perhaps needless to point out that the greater part of this " expenditure has been, to say the least, ill-advised. Probably " most of it has been borne by local syndicates, and many of these " might well ask themselves what they have to show on their " ground in the shape of equivalent in useful work done."

Coal.

The lease, applied for in 1893, over 4,000 acres near St. Lucia Bay, in Hlabisa district where anthracite coal exists, was issued, and the Government has under consideration the question of granting a concession to the lessees for the construction of a line of railway from the coal-fields to the Tugela on the Zululand-Natal border, to which point, also, the concessionaires have obtained permission from the Natal Government to extend the North Coast Railway from Verulam. A company for this purpose has been formed and work on the Natal extension is shortly expected to be commenced.

Two other mineral leases, over about 736 acres, have been

granted near the Nondweni Fields, Nautu district.

A diamond drill, purchased by the Government for hire to the public, for the purpose of testing areas, was continuously engaged during the year from the date it commenced work on the 26th August.

Several alterations and additions to the Mining Regulations were made, but none of any great importance, and I think the law. as now in force, may be said to have worked satisfactorily on the

whole.

Land Grants.

The only land grants that have been made are those in "Proviso B." (Entonjaneni district) to Boer settlers whose farms were included in Zululand by the terms of the agreement of the 22nd October 1886.

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ZULULAND. 1895.

No fresh grants were made in 1895.

A township, containing 85 acre lots (for residential sites), and 314 lots of one third of an acre each (for business sites), was surveyed at the Nondweni Gold Fields. A sale of lots will shortly take place. The conditions of sale are almost identical with those appertaining to the sale of lots in the Eshowe township.

Criminal Statistics.

The criminal returns show the number of offences reported to and dealt with by the Magistrates to have been 1,108 in 1895 compared with 921 in 1894. I am glad to be able to report that but little crime of a serious nature was committed and no abnormal increase in the cases requiring the Chief Magistrate's confirmation. There was a marked decrease in beer drinking, and consequently in the crimes which usually accompany it. Two sessions of the High Court were held, before which there were four convictions (all natives) for murder. The capital sentence passed by the court was carried out on three of the prisoners. The sentence of the fourth prisoner was commuted to imprisonment for life with hard labour, he being afterwards transferred to the Natal Government Lunatic Asylum.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Native Agency.

By arrangement with the Natal Government, the officer appointed by it as Agent in the South African Republic to assist and advise the natives of Natal temporarily resident in the Transvaal and to make remittances on their behalf to their relations, &c., is employed as the Agent in like manner for the natives of Zululand in the Transvaal.

Locusts.

Endeavours were made to cope with this pest, which has been present in Zululand continuously since the latter part of 1894. European supervision of the work of destroying the young locusts was found to be absolutely necessary, and officers were specially engaged for this purpose in various districts, but the result did not justify a continuance of expenditure, which has accordingly been stopped. The swarms were so numerous that to deal with them with any measure of success would have necessitated the constant employment of a large staff of Europeans to direct the efforts of the natives and of the establishment of camps for the latter in uninhabited parts of Zululand, where locusts breed freely and fever is rife during the summer months.

In some parts of the country natives were found to work willingly and systematically, but in others preferred to attempt, generally without avail, to drive swarms off their own gardens and let the young insects be.

Preservation of Game.

ZULULAND. 1895.

11

Reserves were established in certain uninhabited parts of Entonjaneni, Hlabisa, Ndwandwe, Lower Umfolozi, and Ubombo Districts, where no game of any kind may be killed without special permission from the Governor. During the shooting (winter) season these reserves are placed in charge of Europeans.

Health.

The health of the people generally was good. No epidemic of small-pox or other disease broke out. Malarial fever was not nearly so prevalent and the mortality from that cause much less than in 1894.

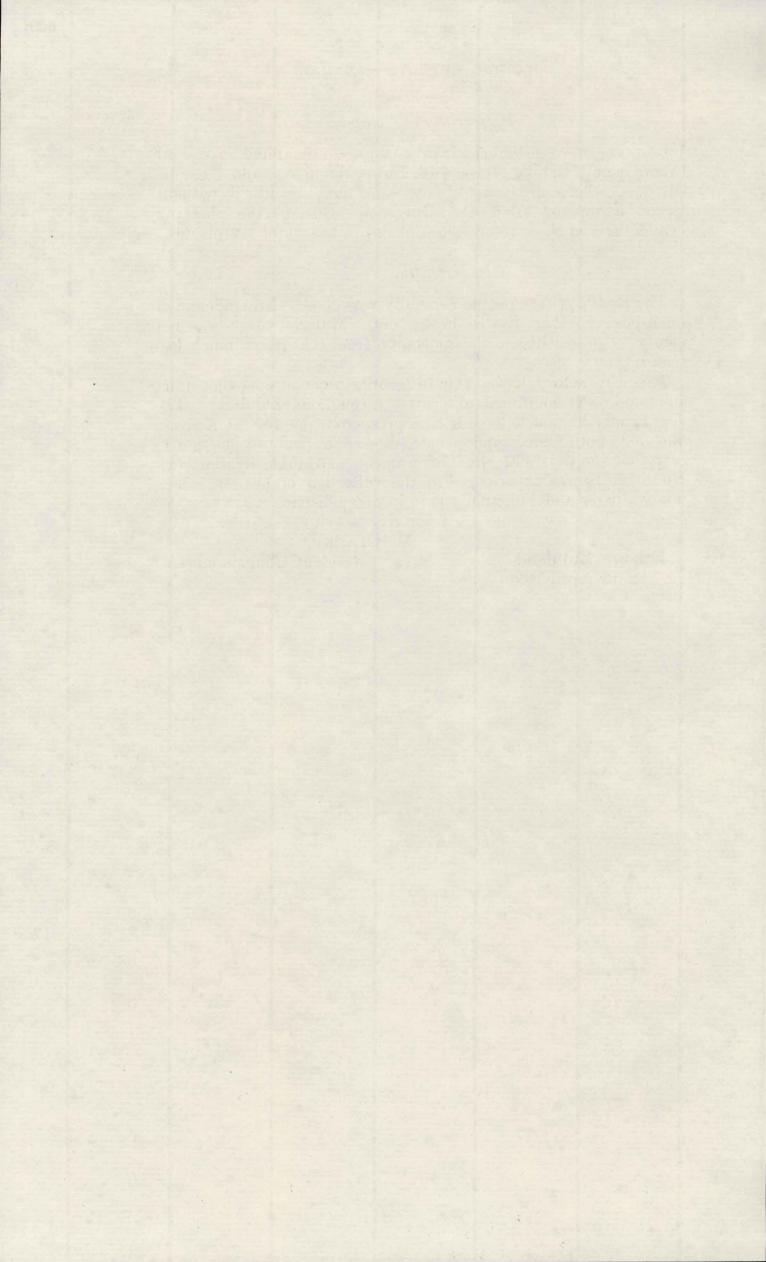
It is satisfactory to be able to record, in conclusion, that quiet and good order continued to prevail throughout Zululand. year cannot be said to have been a prosperous one for the natives; but they, both Chiefs and people, showed a ready disposition to carry out the orders of the Government, and abide by the laws. No difficulty was experienced in the collection of hut tax, which was willingly and punctually paid in every district.

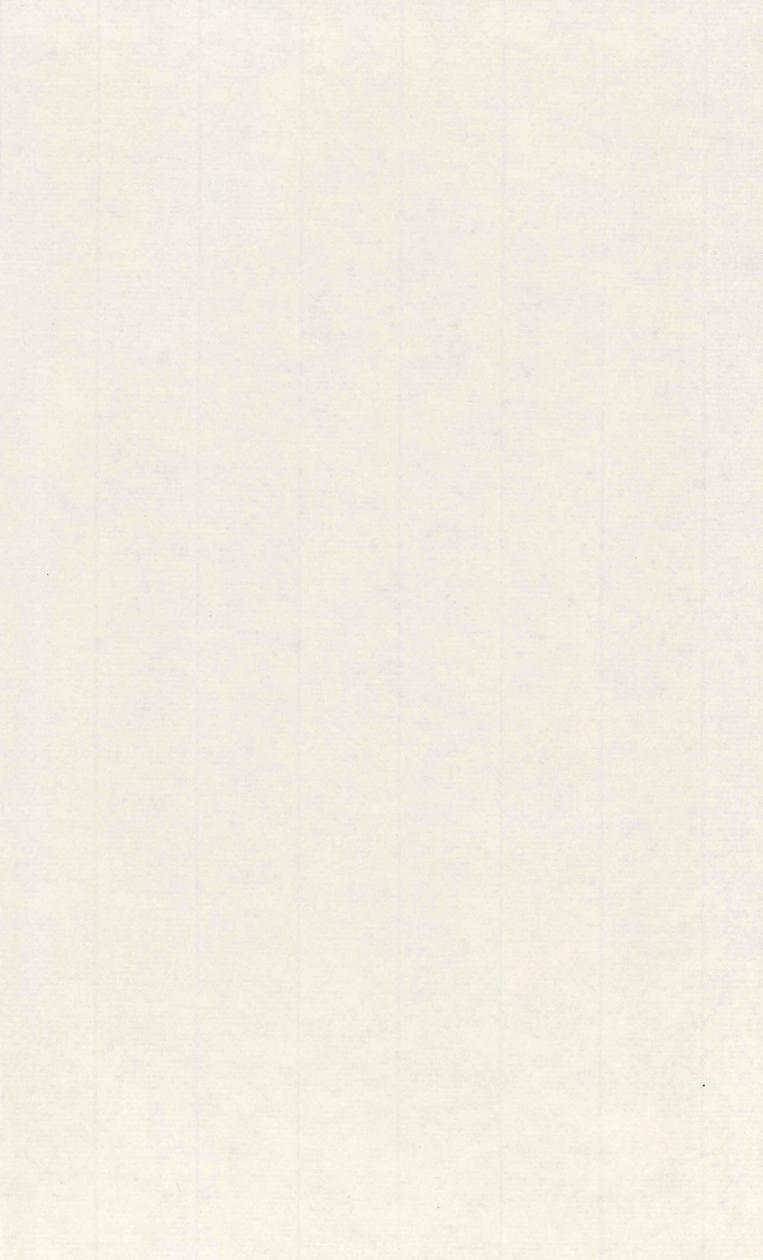
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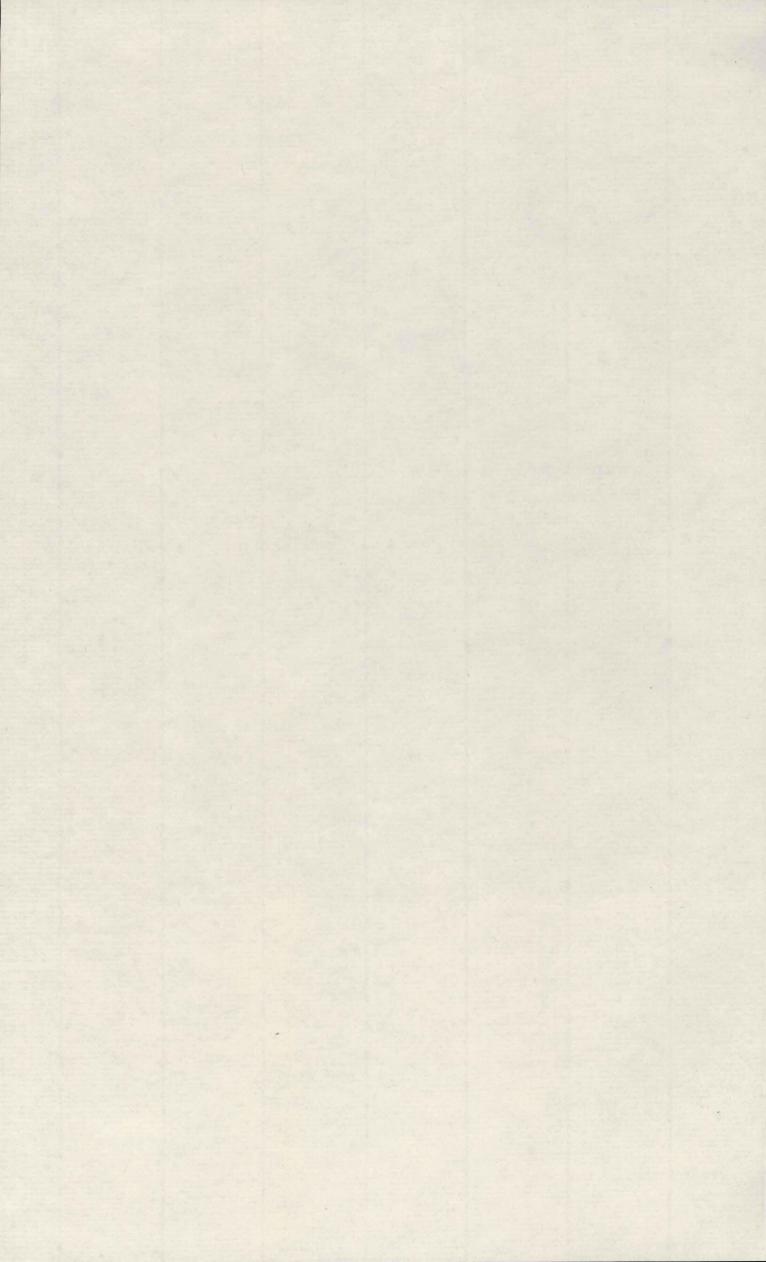
M. CLARKE,

Eshowe, Zululand, 28th April 1896.

Resident Commissioner.







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